Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-90-075 *18 April 1990*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Soviet Delegation Begins Caribbean Goodwill Tour *[CANA]* 1

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

UN Criticizes Dominican Treatment of Haitians *[CANA]* 2

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Commentary Says Radio Marti Jamming 'Legitimate' *[Havana Radio]* 3
Soviet Delegation Arrives for Lenin Anniversary *[Havana TV]* 3
Rodriguez on Soviet-Cuban Cooperation Talks *[Havana TV]* 3
Fidel Castro Attends Ceremony at DPRK Embassy *[Havana TV]* 4
Castro Attends Botanical Garden Ceremony *[Havana TV]* 4
Almeida Meets With Botswana's Masire in Harare *[Havana Radio]* 4
Two Cubans Captured in Ethiopia Released *[Havana TV]* 4

Antigua and Barbuda

Foreign Minister Demands Arms Shipment Inquiry *[CANA]* 5

Haiti

20 April Deadline for Electoral Council Choices *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5
MDN Leader Calls for Electoral Police Force *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5
Ousted CATH Leaders Request Minister's Help *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6

MEXICO

CTM Leader Links Opposition to Drug Trafficking *[UNOMASUNO 11 Apr]* 7

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador

Armed Forces Accuse FMLN of Hindering Talks *[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 16 Apr]* 8

Guatemala

Army Reports Guerrilla Casualties, Kidnappings *[PRENSA LIBRE 16 Apr]* 8

Honduras

Callejas Discusses Economy in News Conference *[Tegucigalpa Radio]* 8
Delivers Speech to Nation *[Tegucigalpa Radio]* 11

Nicaragua

Ortega on Demobilization, Regional Agreements *[Managua Radio]* 12
Contra Delegation Arrives in Managua for Talks *[ACAN]* 13
Chamorro Discusses Meeting *[ACAN]* 14
Commander 'Ruben' Comments *[AFP]* 14
Sandinist General on Demobilization *[Managua Radio]* 15
Lacayo Says Cease-Fire To Be Signed '18 April' *[AFP]* 15
Cease-Fire Reportedly Postponed *[ACAN]* 16
Handicapped Contras To Turn in Damaged Weapons *[ACAN]* 16
UNO Team Questions Chamorro on Use of Funds *[Managua Radio]* 16
Party Leader Discourages Proposed Labor Strike *[Managua Radio]* 16
Protesters Demand Contra Demobilization *[Managua Radio]* 17
Sandinists Reportedly Pressure Drivers To Protest *[Managua Radio]* 17

Panama

Savings Accounts Scheduled To Be Released 25 Apr *[Panama City TV]* 18
'University Christian Democracy' Group Created *[LA PRENSA 16 Apr]* 18

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Menem Interviewed on Meeting With Union Leaders *[AMBITO FINANCIERO 16 Apr]* 19
Cavallo Discloses Menem's Upcoming Visits Abroad *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 19
Foreign Minister To Meet Baker in May or June *[TELAM]* 20
Foreign Minister Leaves for Mexico GATT Talks *[TELAM]* 20
Supreme Court Justice Bacque Submits Resignation *[TELAM]* 20
Navy Chief Receives Missile-Carrying Corvette *[DYN]* 20
Workers' Right To Strike 'Will Not' Be Violated *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 21

Bolivia

Army Conducts Exercises in Chapare Coca Region *[Madrid EFE]* 21
Defense Minister on Fighting Drug Trafficking *[La Paz TV]* 21

Brazil

CNEN Rejects 'Interference' in Nuclear Program *[Brasilia Radio]* 22
Resolutions Signed To Inject Money Into Economy *[Brasilia Radio]* 22
Government Expects No Inflation for April *[Brasilia Radio]* 22
Survey Shows Large Support for Collor's Plan *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 15 Apr]* 23
* State Enterprises End 1989 With Deficit *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 13 Mar]* 23
* Embraer Recovers in 1988, Loses in 1989 *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 13 Mar]* 23
* Changes in Role, Structure of SNI Viewed *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 14 Mar]* 24

Chile

Pinochet Cited on Human Rights Situation *[Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 25
Remarks Neither Confirmed, Denied *[Santiago TV]* 25
EL SIGLO Lists 900 Former CNI Agents *[Madrid EFE]* 25
Interior Minister Comments *[Madrid EFE]* 26
Carabineros Director Studies Article *[Santiago Radio]* 26
MIR Faction Supports Democratization Process *[LA TERCERA DE LA HORA 7 Apr]* 27
Members Named to Socialist Political Commission *[EL MERCURIO 10 April]* 27
Communist Party Secretary Announces New Program *[Santiago Radio]* 27
Political Parties To Recover Confiscated Property *[Santiago Radio]* 27

Peru

Change 90 Issues Statement on Fujimori's Health *[Lima TV]* 28
Vargas Llosa To Keep Economic Program in Runoff *[Buenos Aires DYN]* 28
Shining Path Murders Former Garcia Aide *[Buenos Aires DYN]* 29
Votes for Congress Annulled in 86 Voting Stations *[Lima TV]* 29

Soviet Delegation Begins Caribbean Goodwill Tour

FL1804001190 Bridgetown CANA in English 2341 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, April 17, CANA—A Soviet parliamentary delegation headed by Boris Miroshin of the Supreme Soviet committee is in the Bahamas at the start of a Caribbean goodwill mission which will include Jamaica, Barbados and the Dominican Republic.

The group held talks with the Minister of Foreign Affairs Charles Carter on Monday [16 April] and met with-Acting Governor-General Sir Henry Taylor, and the deputy leader of the opposition Orville Turnquest.

A Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman said that the visit is "an expression of the new openness being demonstrated in the Soviet Union." He said that the visit to small stable democracies in the Caribbean could well serve as important references to the Soviets as they seek to reform and liberalize their system of government.

UN Criticizes Dominican Treatment of Haitians

FL1704165990 Bridgetown CANA in English 1547 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] United Nations, April 17, CANA—The Dominican Republic [DR] has come in for severe criticism by United Nations human rights experts for its treatment of Haitian workers.

Christine Chanet, a member of the UN Human Rights Committee, said that from reports she and the UN panel had received, the treatment of Haitians at the hands of employers in the Dominican Republic "was close to being inhuman." The expert from France expressed deep concern about the situation and wondered what kind of legislation was on the statute books of the Dominican Republic to protect Haitian workers, specifically, to regulate the working hours and wages of those who were employed in sugar cane fields. She made her comments at a meeting of the UN Human Rights Committee in New York.

Another expert, J. Prado Vallejo of Ecuador, also found the treatment of Haitians in the Dominican Republic to be unacceptable. He said that other members of the committee were equally concerned that government officials in Santo Domingo and elsewhere in the country were abusing the rights of their own citizens as well as those of foreigners, such as Haitians.

He cited reports which accused the Dominican Republic of forcing Haitians and others to work against their will and for long hours. The mistreatment of those workers was known, he added. The Ecuadorean, who sits on the panel in his own right and not as a representative of his country, said what worried him about the plight of Haitians was the seeming lack of avenues available to abused workers to have their plight rectified.

Rhadys Abreu de Polanco, an official from the Dominican Republic, who appeared before the committee to state her nation's case, told the experts that the government in Santo Domingo was also concerned about the plight of Haitians. She said that while there was an agreement between the DR and Haiti that governed the recruitment of Haitians, some of the Haitians had gone underground and had become illegal aliens.

Ms. De Polanco estimated that more than one million Haitians were employed in a variety of jobs in her country. She claimed that there was no discrimination against workers and stated that the number of Haitians employed on sugar cane plantations was not high. There was a constant flow of Haitians into her country, she continued, and although they "were taking up our jobs, they do not have any problems in the Dominican Republic."

A similar stance was taken by Kemil Dipp Gomez, another Dominican Republic representative, who argued that there was no need for legislation to outlaw slavery since it did not exist in his country and there was no discrimination against Haitians living there.

"If you want, you can come to Santo Domingo where you will see them displaying their paintings and selling lottery tickets," he declared.

But after listening to both Ms. De Polanco and Gomez, the UN panel seemingly remained convinced that Haitians were being mistreated. For example, Fausto Pocar, an expert from Italy, said it was clear that the human rights of Haitians were being violated and urged the government to do something about it.

A Hungarian member of the UN panel, Janos Fodor, also chided the DR for its handling of Haitians, saying it was a problem which needed attention. The problem of Haitian workers in the Dominican Republic has been a sore point for years with Haitian officials who have accused Santo Dominigo of tolerating what came close to the "enslavement" of Haitians.

The question of the Dominican Republic joining Caricom [Caribbean Community] and the crisis in Haiti are among the long list of items on the provisional agenda for the Caricom foreign ministers' meeting slated for May 7-8 in St. Vincent.

Cuba

Commentary Says Radio Marti Jamming 'Legitimate'

FL1704180390 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Cuba has started testing the systems it uses to jam the U.S. Government anti-Cuban radio signals. The first cycle of the testing period will cover the entire territory of Havana City in the early hours of the morning.

From a moral and legal point of view, this measure is a legitimate response, because in an increasing and adventurous manner, the United States has tried to turn those transmissions into instruments of psychological warfare and disinformation.

The sponsors of the anti-Cuban monster have unscrupulously stated that the purpose of the transmissions is to overthrow the Cuban revolution.

As it is stated in an official report issued today, in practice the radio transmissions beamed from the United States toward Cuba are a unilateral action conducted by the U.S. Government, which seems to have the intention of creating a situation forcing our country to endure discriminatory treatment.

The Cuban revolution accepts neither blackmailing nor slander. Filled with triumphant airs, the Bush administration thought we would stay with our arms folded in the face of such infamy.

The worm radio station lost half its legs as a result of a single blow and it could die unless realistic and fair attitudes are adopted.

Cuban radio and television technology has a great ability to retaliate. Our engineers and experts have received overall and rigorous training from an academic point of view. And they have something else. From a moral stance, they are proud to be Cubans, revolutionaries; and they are proud to defend our sovereignty at any cost.

If they impose a war on us, our people will fight. If they impose a war on us, our people will win. We will always respond to the enemy in an overwhelming manner.

Soviet Delegation Arrives for Lenin Anniversary

FL1704161590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] (Rafael Mates Ovian), president of the branch of the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Association of Armenia and vice-rector of the Foreign Relations School of the (Levan) University, arrived in Cuba last night. He is heading the official Soviet delegation that will participate in the activities marking the 120th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir I. Lenin.

Other members of the Soviet delegation are: Vladimir Zaytsev, chief of the socialist countries department of the Society of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and (Magda Cerevroskaya), vice president of the branch of the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Association in Leningrad.

The distinguished visitors were welcomed at the Jose Marti International Airport by Zoilo Marinello Vidaurreta, president of the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Association in our country; Eva Seoane, vice president of the Cuban Friendship with the Peoples Institute [ICAP]; Juan Morente, chief of the ICAP's USSR Section; and Victor Nirosilov, attache at the Soviet Embassy in Cuba.

The Soviet delegation will participate in the main ceremony to commemorate Lenin's birthday anniversary, which will be held at Lenin Park, and at the provincial ceremonies to be held in Havana City Province. Similarly, the visitors will tour economic and social sites in our capital city and in the interior.

Rodriguez on Soviet-Cuban Cooperation Talks

FL1804010990 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Apr 90

[Text] The protocol of the 20th session of the Cuban-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation was signed by Leonid Abalkin and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, both presidents of that organization in the two countries. This afternoon a trade protocol for this year and part of next year was also signed. Aleksandr Kachanov, first deputy minister of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas signed the document, which anticipates trade worth 9.2 billion rubles, a 8.7 [percent] increase over the same period last year. The document establishes that Soviet deliveries of grain, raw materials, equipment, and spare parts will remain unchanged. Cuba will guarantee delivery to the USSR of sugar, nickel, and citrus fruit, as well as new categories such as medicines, medical instruments, biotechnological products, etc.

After the protocol of the Cuban-Soviet Cooperation Commission was signed, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, said that Commander in Chief Fidel Castro had stated to Abalkin that Cuba can now partially reciprocate with medical aid for the great assistance received from the USSR over these 30 years. For his part, Abalkin stressed that his stay here has permitted him to become familiar with the Cuban economy and its potential. The deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers said he was amazed at the care and treatment the veterans of the war in Afghanistan and the children injured by the Chernobyl accident are receiving in Cuba.

Regarding the 1990-91 trade protocol, Carlos Rafael stated to the press:

[Begin Rodriguez recording] It represents not only an advance in our relations, but a consolidation of these relations. As you know, there has been speculation during these days concerning what Abalkin had come to Cuba to do. According to the enemy, he had come to impose new conditions on us. All that has dissolved like mist because the relations maintained during these days confirm the friendship between the USSR and Cuba and the principles that govern this friendship. These are principles that cannot be altered.

At the CEMA meeting, the 45th CEMA meeting, when we talked about the transformations that were taking place in other countries, the specificity of [Soviet] relations with Cuba, Vietnam, and Mongolia was upheld, and this specificity has now been confirmed. So when we began to work on the commission headed by Cabrisas, we began to work in this spirit.

I can assure you that, naturally, it is not that there are no difficulties. We have analyzed these difficulties critically. There are problems arising from the situation in the USSR and the situation in Cuba, the tensions both countries are under, but this only involves a minimal part of our relations. When one analyzes what was done last year, in 1989, and what we are doing in 1990, one sees that the fundamental part of the relationship has remained intact; the spirit of the relationship is the same, and the work we are going to do confirms this spirit and this tradition. [end recording]

Fidel Castro Attends Ceremony at DPRK Embassy

FL1704150090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] On the evening of 16 April, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, attended a friendly meeting held at the DPRK Embassy in Cuba.

The meeting marked DPRK President Kim Il-Song's 78th birthday. The meeting was organized by Pak Chung-kuk, DPRK ambassador to Cuba.

Castro Attends Botanical Garden Ceremony

FL1804015090 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Apr 90

[Text] With the presence of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, the ceremony to donate equipment and ornamental plants for the Japanese garden took place this afternoon at the National Botanical Garden. This donation was made by commercial companies accredited in Cuba and the commemorative association for the World Exposition of Japan.

Japanese Ambassador to Cuba Ryo Kawade gave Dr. Angela Leiva, director of the National Botanical Garden of Cuba, more than 1,000 ornamental plants of 32 species, lawn mowers, cultivators, and electrical pumps to supply water. In areas of the institution, Fidel, Ryo Kawade, Angela Leiva, and Jorge Lezcano, first secretary of the provincial committee of the Communist Party of Cuba in Havana, planted ginkgo biloba trees, which live for 200 years and symbolize the friendship between Japan and Cuba.

Almeida Meets With Botswana's Masire in Harare

FL1704202590 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1943 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Botswana President Quett Masire and Cuban Vice President [of the Council of State] Juan Almeida Bosque today expressed their satisfaction with the good progress in bilateral relations. In a meeting in Harare, where both are guests attending the ceremonies marking the 10th anniversary of Zimbabwe's independence, Almeida spoke to Masire about how Cuba is handling economic development and U.S. attacks, including the so-called TV Marti.

Sources consulted by PRENSA LATINA said that the Botswana president acknowledged Cuba's contribution to the independence of Angola and Namibia, and praised the work of Cuban cooperative workers in Botswana, where a group of doctors from our country is working. Botswana President Quett Masire and Cuban Vice President Juan Almeida Bosque agreed on the importance of the struggle now being waged against the apartheid system in South Africa.

Two Cubans Captured in Ethiopia Released

FL1804013190 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Apr 90

[Text] Today two of comrades who were part of the team of Cuban civilian doctors serving in Asosa, Ethiopia, were released. They had been captured at the beginning of January. Comrades Luz Bello Tamayo, nurse anesthesiologist; and Caridad Fernandez Villaroel, obstetrician-gynecologist; were received today in Sanaa, capital of the Yemen Arab Republic, by Hector Estrada, Cuban ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. Both comrades are in good health and will begin their trip back to Cuba tomorrow.

Their release by the Oromo Liberation Front, an organization in opposition to the Ethiopian Government, was the result of negotiations by the Sudanese Government and mediation by the Governments of the Yemen Arab Republic and Egypt, and the PLO. According to reports from a representative of the Sudanese Government, the other four comrades—Caridad Benavides Carmona, Yolanda Hernandez Boga, Pedro Ovidio Ulacia Marin, and Humberto Gonzalez Sanchez—are also in good health and will be released soon.

Antigua and Barbuda

Foreign Minister Demands Arms Shipment Inquiry

FL1804023290 Bridgetown CANA in English 0036 GMT 18 Apr 90

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 17, CANA—The illegal arms shipment controversy in which Antigua and Barbuda is involved has taken a new and dramatic turn. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Lester Bird said on Tuesday [17 April] night that he had decided not to attend any further meeting of the cabinet until Prime Minister V.C. Bird authorises a judicial inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the shipment.

Among cabinet ministers backing Bird's stand is Minister of Trade, Industry and Commerce Hugh Marshall, who told CANA: "Even if I stand alone with Lester Bird or without him, I am not going to be sitting in a cabinet meeting again until some positive action is taken by the prime minister to get to the bottom of this sickening, degrading affair."

The escalating controversy has resulted from a diplomatic note last April 6 from Colombia complaining to the Bird government about a shipment of arms from Antigua and Barbuda that was discovered on the property of a leading Colombian drugs dealer, Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha. The shipment had originated from the port of Haifa in Israel in March last year, arriving in Antigua some weeks later on April 24, on the understanding that it was for the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force.

But acting in his capacity as foreign minister, Lester Bird has informed both the Governments of Israel and Colombia that no order for the purchase of arms for his country's Defence Force had been made to Israel. Commander of the local Defence Force Lt. Colonel Clyde Walker has declared in a statement that at no time did he or anyone under his command "negotiate or arrange" with anyone in Israel for the acquisition of weapons or ammunition from Israel for the Defence Force or for anyone else. Foreign Minister Bird has, however, confirmed to Israel that his initial inquiries into the matter have established the information provided by the Colombians about the shipment and transhipment of the illegal arms, "some of which ended up in Colombia".

In support of his firm stand "to bring a speedy and effective solution to this sordid issue", Bird told CANA on Tuesday night: "I travelled to New York over the Easter weekend to secure the services of a U.S. attorney who has distinguished himself in tracking down matters of this nature."

He named the U.S. attorney as Lawrence Barcella Jnr., who, he said, has already held "initial meetings with relevant American and Israeli officials in Washington and who should be proceeding soon to Israel in pursuit of my government's concern to clear the name of Antigua and Barbuda and to bring to justice those who may be involved in criminal wrongdoings."

In their letter to the Antigua and Barbuda Government on April 6, the Colombian Government, acting through its diplomatic mission to the OAS, named Minister of National Security V.C. Bird Jnr, and an Israeli businessman, Maurice Sarfati, as having knowledge about the shipment from Israel. But Bird Jnr has made a categorical denial of any such involvement. He has, however, admitted to having seen the communication from the Colombians. He also said that he knew of Sarfati, but explained that he was "unaware of Sarfati's current whereabouts", insisting that "I had nothing to do with any arms shipment."

Lester Bird, on the other hand, said that while he was not prepared to make accusations against anyone: "I feel that there is more than enough grounds, as we say, there is a prima facie case for a judicial probe under the commissions of inquiry act."

He said that he has asked the prime minister to take such a course. "Until the prime minister sets up such an inquiry, I would not be attending any further meetings of the cabinet starting from tomorrow (Wednesday) [18 April]."

Bird said that he was aware of "similar strong feelings by some of my fellow cabinet colleagues in the government. But I am not looking for support. I am prepared to stand alone. Too much harm has been done to the good name of Antigua and Barbuda for this matter not to be dealt with decisively ...." the foreign minister said.

Haiti

20 April Deadline for Electoral Council Choices

FL1704195090 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] According to a Justice Ministry communique dated 16 April, and in conformity with a 6 April decree, the deadline of 20 April has been set for government-acknowledged organizations to provide the names of those who will be sent to represent them on the Provisional Electoral Council. All other groups and organizations stipulated in Article 289 of the Constitution of 1987 also have until 20 April to announce their representatives to the Permanent Electoral Council.

The ministry also informs everyone that once this deadline has expired, the government itself will choose people to fill vacancies, as per Article 289 of the Constitution of 29 March 1987.

MDN Leader Calls for Electoral Police Force

FL1704200790 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Although MDN [Mobilization for National Development] leader Hubert de Ronceray considers

national reconciliation an imperative for democracy, he points out that today one cannot conceive of change without social justice. In an interview granted the government daily paper L'UNION last weekend, De Ronceray says he believes it is the task of the government, be it transitory or definitive, to restore confidence in the different strata of the population that justice will be distributed fairly. Peace, work, and progress are possible only at this price.

Asked if certain sectors might categorically oppose any and all fair judicial proceedings in Haiti, De Ronceray explains that in a traditional society such as ours there will always be hotbeds of resistance to attempts at social change or technocratic innovation. These changes and innovations must be introduced with tact, skill, and discrimination and translated into institutional changes embracing the aggregate of inclinations and behaviors.

Regards demacoutization. De Ronceray feels there is a kind of abusive use of the term macoute that makes it difficult to define the term appropriately. Macoutism in the strictest sense of the word is a violent, aggressive, terrorist attitude. When it seeks to justify itself using the government, De Ronceray also sees in this one of the ways macoutism is manifested. [sentence as heard]

The MDN leader expressed the wish to see created an electoral police force recruited from among young Haitian university students whose task it would be to watch over the security of the electoral process, particularly at the polling places. A maximum of two months should suffice to prepare and render operational this electoral police force, stressed De Ronceray.

Finally, De Ronceray pointed out that it will be up to Haiti to use to maximum benefit the (?play) of interdependence between geopolitical and economic American reality, and French cultural reality, to affirm Haiti's identity and accelerate its economic and cultural growth.

Ousted CATH Leaders Request Minister's Help

FL1704222290 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Jean Auguste Mesyeux and Joseph Manusi Pierre, former leaders of the Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers, CATH, have asked Social Affairs Minister Claudette Werleigh to declare null and void the general assembly held by Yves Antoine Richard in March. We remind listeners that the CATH's executive committee was expelled from the CATH at that time. In addition, Mesyeux and Pierre denounce the congress Richard is proposing to hold on 11 May. The expelled CATH leaders told us they have explained to Minister Werleigh that Richard is heading the CATH illegally. [passage omitted]

Mesyeux and Pierre told us that Minister Werleigh summoned Richard to the Social Affairs Ministry yesterday to answer an accusation made against him to the effect that that he organized a general assembly while he was not even a member of the CATH. Meanwhile partisans of Mesyeux and Pierre appeared before the ministry on Rue de l'Enterrement to confront Richard and his partisans, whereupon Richard called upon the police to provide security. The ousted leaders criticized Richard for claiming to be a partisan of the masses and for refusing to leave the Social Affairs Ministry until the police came, so as to avoid being uprooted by the population. [passage omitted]

The fired CATH leaders expressed the hope of taking over the CATH once again.

CTM Leader Links Opposition to Drug Trafficking

PA1704184290 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 11 Apr 90 pp 1, 7

[Report by Antonio Vazquez]

[Text] The left-wing parties' involvement in drug trafficking as a means of acquiring weapons to destabilize the country has been denounced by CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] Secretary General Fidel Velazquez, who pointed out: "I am not so foolish as to disclose their names, but whoever is interested in knowing them should approach the government, because they are known there."

At a news conference, the CTM leader said that despite the power that President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has gained from the outset of his term, there are many armed people in Mexico who have plans to destabilize the country. Lacking the courage to disclose their names, Velazquez Sanchez said that authorities at the highest levels know there are opposition members—specifically the PRD [Party of the Democratic Revolution]—who are involved with drug traffickers because the weapons they use to occupy mayoralties cannot come from anywhere else, he said.

What is the labor movement doing to avoid this aggression?

We have already done what was necessary to prevent infiltration; however, I will not say what we did or how we did it to avoid being taken by surprise, he said.

Velazquez, who is almost 90 years old, said that so far he has not been threatened by any organization. Even if they did, he said, I would not worry because I am more than satisfied with the life I have led up to now.

Concerning the possibility of the reemergence of guerrilla groups in Mexico, the CTM leader pointed out that he does not exactly know if this will happen; nevertheless, he said, "it is already worrisome that there are so many armed people in the country." That a particular party uses weapons to occupy municipalities should alarm the citizens, because Mexico "paid" its quota of blood many years ago, and today our conflicts and differences should be resolved by law.

Meanwhile, Velazquez Sanchez added that modernization in Mexico is advancing progressively, and he denied that his union is an obstacle to achieving it. From its inception, the CTM has been a modern organization because it broke the traditional pattern of unionism and syndicates which limited everything to the exclusive handling of labor conflicts.

Today, Velazquez said, workers participate in politics at all the national forums in order to be a factor in the decisions that are made for Mexico's good. For the CTM, he said, modernization is not a problem; it is daily way of life.

The labor leader said that the business sector is planning to prevent the country's modernization, and proof of this is that, at all costs, management wants to deprive the workers of their involvement in the production process and to prevent them from defending their rights. If it were up to them, they would eliminate all the unions.

Over the course of his talk with the reporters, Fidel Velazquez pointed out that the country has maintained its stability and social peace despite foreign press reports. While it is true that Mexico has not accomplished the economic growth and social benefits that we all hoped for, there is hope that we will soon accomplish them. Politically, he said, our party is still dominant; that an organization is trying to appropriate mayoralties and carry out its own justice is not a sign of political instability, but unequivocal proof of these gentlemen's lack of maturity.

El Salvador

Armed Forces Accuse FMLN of Hindering Talks

PA1704182990 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 16 Apr 90 p 11

[Text] Referring to the latest rebel attacks against civilians and soldiers, a Defense and Public Security Ministry communique notes: "Despite the peace talks, pacifist communiques, and unilateral truces, the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] terrorists continue to violate their own agreements and hamper the talks process."

The Armed Forces, the communique adds, have denounced and condemned before humanitarian organizations and the churches of the world the FMLN's hostile attitude, which is evident in the murder of Sublieutenant Salvador Enrique Salazar Hernandez. This officer was dragged from a party on the shores of Coatepeque Lake and shot to death on the night of 6 April.

The communique also mentions the cowardly assassination of two police officers while they were on duty at a gas station located on 3d West Street in San Salvador, as well as the car bomb attack against Cetipol [Police Instruction Center] officers, agents, and students in Santa Tecla where six officers and one civilian were killed.

The communique refers to the indiscriminate attacks against civilians in which many people have been killed or wounded, including Otto Sorto Milla, son-in-law of the Air Force commander, and a pregnant lady, Mrs. Maximina Adelina Coto. She perished in the terrorist attack carried out against 1st Infantry Brigade positions.

All of the above, the communique states, shows the FMLN rebels' evil intentions to continue the bloodbath in this country with their misguided actions against the legitimately elected government and the people who are exhausted after 10 years of terrorist violence.

Guatemala

Army Reports Guerrilla Casualties, Kidnappings

PA1704184390 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 16 Apr 90 p 2

[Text] An official communique issued by the Army's Information and Press Department (DIDE) has reported that two soldiers were kidnapped, and two guerrillas killed, in armed clashes during Holy Week.

One of them took place on km 132 of the highway joining the capital to San Jeronimo, Baja Verapaz, where the insurgents had established an assault post. The communique reported that the guerrillas forced occupants of cars and buses to surrender money and valuables.

The report added that the guerrillas evacuated a suburban bus and pushed it down a cliff. Upon learning this, combined Siproci [Civil Protection System] forces were deployed to the area, where there was an exchange of gunfire for several minutes.

The communique also stated that, during a combing operation, the security forces wounded six guerrillas, but recovered only two bodies, which could not be identified.

Meanwhile, in San Juan Acul, Dolores, Peten Department, people who identified themselves as guerrillas set up an assault post to force drivers and passengers on urban buses to surrender money.

DIDE added that Army Corporal Jose Tobias Orellana and soldier Ariel Godoy Perez were aboard one of the buses while on holiday during Holy Week holiday. The guerrillas forcefully took them off the bus and away to an unknown location.

DIDE's 25-90 communique pointed out that the guerrillas violated a truce that the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity] had reportedly announced. In conclusion, it said that the insurgents implement such actions for publicity purposes.

Honduras

Callejas Discusses Economy in News Conference

PA1704193890 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1620 GMT 16 Apr 90

[News conference by President Rafael Leonardo Callejas with unidentified reporters at Government House in Tegucigalpa on 16 April "before leaving for Washington"—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Callejas] ...from the Presidency of the Republic of a temporary nature, it is a high honor for him as a labor leader to assume the Presidency of the Republic. I know that during the time I will be away he will be able to help maintain the sound relations that currently exist among all sectors of our nation. Therefore, I am pleased to leave Marco Tulio in temporary charge of the Presidency.

[Reporter] How long is temporary, sir?

[Callejas] Until my return, which will be on 21-22 April.

[Reporter] How do the internal problems in our country stand? The gas stations want to suspend their operations, and what will become of the situation at Antel [National Administration for Telecommunications]?

[Callejas] Basically, we established a work program for this initial period of the administration, during which the most complex aspect will be the application of economic adjustment measures. In this sense, the law on the structural adjustment of the economy is logic and necessary, even if not to our liking. On the contrary, it

implies leaving behind an economy of artificial prices and entering an economy of realities. Basically, this process will need some time. Adjustments will most likely continue to be made during the course of this year.

What is important is that the key elements of the law on structural adjustment of the economy are already in place. That is to say, we have established them rapidly, and from now on, no complex decisions are pending in the economic arena. Once the adjustment in fuel prices is made...[changes thought] I wish to confirm that there will be no increases in urban transport rates. This does not mean, however, that there will be no repercussions in other sectors. We will look into this, though, and will handle this matter in such a way as to stave off a greater negative impact on the Honduran consumer economy.

In our opinion, another fundamental element has been the situation that has arisen because of disagreements with the labor organizations, particularly the CTH [Confederation of Honduran Workers], concerning matters related to public employment administration. In this regard, I expect a final agreement to have been reached by noon today, thus establishing peace in labor-management relations in the public sector. This will permit us to have a broad perspective and will lead us into the fundamental element of the short and medium term. Our country requires that we immediately call for a concerted effort after we implement the law on structural adjustments of the economy.

We have spoken with labor leaders and have told them that after the end of the impasse that arose as a result of the labor-management relations of government and public employees, I expect to meet with them next week to define the eight points they have presented to the government. These points deal with the elements of the concerted effort from the standpoint of the structural adjustment of the economy. In parallel with this, the Honduran Social Investments Fund [Fondo Hondureno de Inversion Social] will begin generating jobs this week. We expect to be able to hire the initial 2,000 persons this week in Tegucigalpa. In San Pedro Sula there is a program for 1,000 jobs. This will ease some of the problems about which consumers are complaining, which is the impact of the law on structural adjustments on prices.

Logically, the alternative in this case, which I will outline in the message I will deliver to the Honduran people over radio and television tonight, is basically that not setting order in the economy entails a permanent cost that would be extremely high for the people. This cost takes the form of four major elements: inflation; lack of economic growth, which implies chronic unemployment; supply problems and permanent scarcity; and, above all, the absence of future possibilities for development.

Consequently, the law on the structural adjustment of the economy is a complex, difficult, and harsh element. However, it is necessary. I really do not like having to adopt these decisions. Nobody does. This is difficult, but we feel it is part of the framework required to correct the accumulated errors of the last 10 years, which have exerted a negative impact that in turn generates injustice in the economic and social systems.

It is not easy, but we have the will to correct errors when they exist, to improve positive decision-making, and to maintain an effective dialogue that will permit us to create a favorable climate for economic growth. This, in short, is the basic objective of the law on structural adjustments of the economy. In other words, our economy must achieve a dynamic that will permit it to expand and permit us to generate exports, reduce the spiral of inflation, and face the coming 24 months with better possibilities for the future of Honduras.

[Reporter] Will your government reconsider the fuel-price increase, which the majority of the Hondurans consider to be too high?

[Callejas] No, that is a problem of another nature. When you look at this adjustment, you can see that it implies a doubling of the price of fuel. For us, these are decisions that require correcting the effects so as not to fall into the mistake of thinking that the cause of the problem lies in the price. Rather, the cause of the problem is the distortion that we have encountered in trying to buy fuel on a two-to-one exchange rate. This rate does not exist for the Honduran currency, except for purposes of the foreign debt. The corrective measure must deal with the final result. To give an example, what are the implications for urban transit? We are not going to increase the urban tariff fares, but we will grant subsidies. There will be a large economic subsidy in the amount of more than 25 million lempiras. All these corrective measures should not be seen looking back at the past, but rather with a view to the future to avoid negative effects on the people's welfare.

[Reporter] It is said that due to these measures your popularity has waned among the people and that this might create problems for your government.

[Callejas] I won the elections with a wide electoral margin. Once one becomes president, one does not have to worry about one's level of popularity if he or she is not up for reelection. What one has to maintain is a permanent level of communication, of dialogue, so that the scope of the measures will be understood. In other words, this is not a popularity contest. The elections are over. I now have the responsibility, which as I said is not a very gratifying one. One has to take measures that one knows will have a detrimental effect on the people in the short term, but which I am convinced will spell enormous benefit for our country in the long-term. Logically, everyone views things at the moment. It is difficult to envision things in the medium-term. Consequently, the president should not be concerned about his level of popularity.

[Reporter] Mr. President, since you adopted certain economic measures, and recently, with the fuel-price hike, prices have skyrocketed. Interurban tariff rates

have increased considerably. Is the government not concerned about finding a formula of agreement so that the price increases will not be so steep and have such an impact on the people?

[Callejas] Yes, of course. In that sense, some of the interurban tariff increases have been discussed with certain sectors. We will make an effort so that the impact of the interurban tariff rates will be consistent with the real cost of the transportation prices, which have also suffered a negative effect as a result of the fuel-price increase.

I am concerned about other areas, too, for instance, corn. If there is a supply of corn, if the government has imported the product to offset a price increase, one nonetheless hears the media saying that there is an increase. I have discussed this aspect with the economy minister in the sense that new laws must be promulgated. I hope that they will be ready soon. In this manner, there can be an effective and direct government action in those areas. If there is no reason whatsoever for a price increase, there will be forceful action to initiate criminal proceedings against those who speculate. In this case, there is no reason why the price of corn should have increased. We have also agreed on the price of milk. In fact, there have been some offers to reduce the price of milk, as we have seen in the media. Then, somewhere along the line, there is someone who breaks the price scales to the detriment of the consumer. This is unacceptable. We will then proceed to search for the legal mechanisms to mete out an effective punishment to those who act without consideration for the national consumer.

[Reporter] Will the taxi drivers who request it also obtain a subsidy?

[Callejas] I believe that taxis are free to collect tariffs. They are not going to increase tariffs and are not requesting subsidies.

[Reporter] Is the government willing to grant a subsidy?

[Callejas] I repeat, in the case of the taxi drivers, they are free to collect the tariffs they deem appropriate.

[Reporter] Let us speak of your visit to Washington. What will be the fundamental topics that you will discuss with President Bush?

[Callejas] They will be diverse and very important for the future of our relations, the future of the Central American region, and the future of the country.

First, the logical and most important subject deals with a joint action entailing effective, medium-term support for the law that regulates economic structure. Adjustment measures demand a response. We are basically concerned with finally securing a bridge loan to pay for the amounts we have in arrears with international banking organizations so we can be eligible for a steady flow of money from these organizations in the next few years.

In the second place, we will talk about commercial programs. We think it is important to increase the duration of the Caribbean Basin Initiative and to ask the United States to apply a free-trade policy. Products like sugar and coffee are essential for us. This will give you an idea of what we are talking about. The U.S. sugar quota and the U.S. market's bids to subsidize its sugar production alone signify the loss of 400,000 jobs a year in Latin America. This could mean the loss of more than 25,000 jobs in Honduras every year as the result of a tariff policy, against what the United States proclaims.

We will also talk about the problem of drugs and a new alternative for Central America, the institutionality of democracy, which is represented by Violeta de Chamorro's assumption of power on 25 April. There is a new political outlook in Central America. This allows us to think agian of integration programs and of political, economic, and social associations in Central America.

[Reporter] Will you request the withdrawal of the U.S. presence in the country since Central America has entered a pacification stage?

[Callejas] Military relations with the United States will be analyzed. Specifically, military exercises are of a unilateral nature. Honduras has the power to cancel them or not, as it sees fit. At present, this subject is not under discussion.

[Reporter] Mr. President, you are in the process of carrying out a national agreement program. This program, however, does not include the opposition parties, which are threatening to form an opposition coalition. Would this coalition not be harmful to your government?

[Callejas] That is a wrong assumption. We have always intended to reach an agreement with the political parties. I have no idea where this idea of the opposition parties might come from. We have talked with them and told them that the political subjects are essential in an agreement. The electoral law amendments and the legislative mechamisms demand an agreement. We are more than willing to act in this direction.

[Reporter] Do you have the latest reports on the contras' demobilization?

[Callejas] Yes, we do, in addition to those already reported by the media. We understand that there will be contra demobilization activities between 18 and 20 April.

[Reporter] Mr. President, will you continue to adjust the structure of the economy, or have you already made all the adjustments?

[Callejas] This is what I referred to at the beginning of this conference. For us, the biggest decisions regarding the structural organization of the economy have already been made.

[Reporter] What instructions have you issued so that gas stations can go on operating?

[Callejas] There are legal actions. Gas stations are public service enterprises regulated by permit. Any such corporations failing to abide by the law will cease operating. I think we have to be very clear on this. We think the stations' demands, as a group, are valid. However, such demands and a halt in their services to the people will force the government to take specific measures. We will demand compliance with the law.

[Reporter] The workers have announced mobilizations for this week. Have they reported to you on this action against the adjustment measures?

[Callejas] I have no reports on that.

[Reporter] Are these measures final?

[Callejas] The economy's structural reorganization measures have been taken with a clear projection into the future. Therefore, we cannot return to a past situation which created the crisis in the first place. We are correcting mistakes. Nevertheless, we are willing—I have said this in public and we have made decisions in this direction—to make changes, provided it is shown to us from experience that such a change would lead to the same end. For instance, we made legislative decisions regarding the coffee and sugar tax, and the five-percent interest on bank accounts was corrected.

The government has not turned a deaf ear. It has not taken an absolute stand. We are aware, however, that we are moving toward a goal: a stronger economy without fictitious prices; clarity and transparency in the handling of public affairs; the reduction of tariffs as an effective price-control mechanism, which is oriented toward the exporting system; and, above all, the creation of a dynamic for investment that will permit the economy to grow. Returning to the past in an economy of recession would be equivalent to keeping Honduras in dire poverty, which we are not willing to do.

Delivers Speech to Nation

PA1704232290 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 0210 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Speech by President Rafael Leonardo Callejas in Tegucigalpa on 16 April—recorded]

[Text] My dear fellow countrymen: It has been six weeks since I had the opportunity to share my views with the Honduran people through the necessary and permanent dialogue process. It is important to do this because the deep structural reform that has been devised to create adequate conditions for a healthy economy has led to uncertainty, doubts, a lack of credibility, and anxiety among the people. These are the short-term effects caused by the decisions that we have made.

You must believe that it was not easy for me to make these decisions, but it was necessary to do so. We cannot have a strong Republic when the economy is ill.

I want to remind you what the origins are of the decisions that we have been forced to implement and why we have devised this plan of deep changes. First, there was the excessive consumption of our society, and particularly of the government. This created inflationary pressures, an increase in prices, and a lack of basic products.

In the economic field, the decisions upon which we have based our actions have, as a main goal, a desire to face this crisis and give the country hope for the future, hope founded on economic growth and price stability. We have sustained an economic deterioration for 10 years. Today, and beginning from the day that we acted with great decision, energy, and patriotism to face the crisis, we feel that we are achieving some of the primary aspects of our primary objectives.

I know this is not a simple task. Above all, I know of the repercussions these measures will have once they are all implemented. They will affect prices, for example fuel prices, because of speculation by unscrupulous groups of people who take advantage of these difficult times to raise the prices of their products. Price speculation has taken place, despite consistent decisions by businessmen to stabilize the prices of basic products, and despite the fact that we have acted, in due time, to import the foodstuffs that the people need.

Given the above-mentioned picture, tonight I want to convey to you some facts that lead us to believe we are moving in the right direction to achieve our desired objectives.

First, the measures allow us to guarantee the supply of basic products. After these actions are implemented, I can assure you that there will not be a lack of fuel and raw materials. We will not have a limited supply of foodstuffs for the people.

I also want to tell the people that we have succeeded in regaining our credibility abroad. This is important, because one of our chief objectives was and is to make the world recognize that Hondurans are committed to solving thier problems. Where does that lead us? Friendly countries and multilateral credit organizations will give us a new credit status, meaning that in 1990 and 1991 we will have a positive flow of dollars. This way, we will be able to obtain sorely needed foreign currency so that our economy can obtain its basic products and raw materials and once again grow.

We cannot possess the possibility of future well-being if we are unable to grow economically. Thus, it becomes fundamental for all of us to be aware that no matter how hard the current situation is—and we must not deny that the situation is complex—we are moving ahead. This will foster the adequate conditions in society so that production incentives will generate more exports and we

can avoid the need to import primary products, such as basic grains, which would constitute an aberration of our economy. I know the people feel that the current situation is complex. However, this does not mean the path is not the correct one. We cannot, and must not, roll back the decisions made, as this would entail again falling into an economy that negates the objectives of well-being we are promoting. With this idea in mind, I again ask the Honduran people for their understanding, approval, and support for the decisions we are making. We cannot think we will resolve all our problems in less than 90 days. However, the course on which we have embarked represents our goal and is the correct and necessary one.

We now have developed the overall structural framework for the decisions the Honduran economy demanded. The law on economic restructuring and the increase in fuel prices constitute the two basic variables of the problem. This law, together with the external factor of the negotiations which we will conduct in the months ahead to reap the benefits of the decisions made—in terms of improved international relations with financial sectors—will pave a propitious and appropriate path for the goals we have established.

In this respect, dear countrymen, you must express your approval by recognizing that the government clearly outlined its stance and thinking and has acted along those lines.

This does not mean that in a short period of time we will be happy, because these decisions naturally affect our private interests. However, we will get ahead. This year, 1990, is an extremely difficult year. I want all of us to understand this. However, these difficulties are part of the great adjustments we must make to put our economy on a sound basis and then be able to view a much clearer picture in the economic horizon for the collective behavior of our society.

This is a program with no privileges. All sectors here are participating in a positive and complex manner. It is a program that represents profound decisions and adjustments by the government of the Republic.

It is not true that we have increased the budget by 1 billion lempiras. What we did was to clearly tell the people the amount of the budget. We are telling the Honduran people the truth. There are some groups that take advantage of these circumstances. However, what we have said is the truth. We have not hidden anything.

All groups having a political, economic, and social interest should be aware of a fact that is basic in this government: There are no privileges for any sector of the economy, of society, or of the groups that traditionally received benefits from this type of action.

The path is clear, precise, and correct. We are also getting close to seeing the desired results of the social programs. We took some action on the issue of fuels, but there will be no increase in the cost of public transportation. We reduced the expenditures of the government, but by the same token, we are carrying out programs to help single mothers with dependent children.

We took action on monetary issues, but we are also creating jobs through the Honduran Social Investment Fund. All of this is being done within a framework, within an action that has been politically designed and administratively carried out so that the less privileged sectors will pay a smaller cost in the economic adjustment program.

I call on you, fellow countrymen, so that you will be aware that our decisions always take into account the vast majority of the Honduran people, and that we will act on these decisions. As a basic step in this stage that is nearly concluded and in which the greater issues have been solved, when I return from the United States we will call on the Honduran people—through the social, economic, and political organizations—to make a concerted national effort so that everyone will see the effect of the measures that have been adopted and so that we will be able to correct whatever mistakes we have made, but without taking one step backwards. If we did that, it would mean returning to the past and falling once again onto that unending path which the Honduran society was following.

My dear countrymen, have faith and trust that time will bring a strong economy and a equitable society in which the well-being of the whole will become a reality as a result of today's decisions. To ask for overnight results would be to deceive the Honduran people. To obtain results for the day after tomorrow would be to tell the truth to the nation. This is my commitment to you, and I say this clearly, honestly, patriotically, and affectionately. We will continue to act, always making our decisions in the interest of the people of Honduras. Not all short-term decisions are pleasing, and yet these are the best decisions.

Dear countrymen, after I return from the United States, I will again come before you in an program where you can openly participate with your comments and views. All of us, the president and his cabinet, will be there listening to you. In this way, we will be in contact during this time, which, I grant you, is difficult, but this difficult time will provide Hondurans with a tremendous opportunity to move ahead, and this is our ultimate goal. Thank you.

Nicaragua

Ortega on Demobilization, Regional Agreements

PA1704154890 Managua Domestic Servicein Spanish 1205 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Statement by President Daniel Ortega; date and place not given—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] Initially, there was the Costa del Sol agreement signed on 14 February, 1989 in La Paz Department, El

Salvador, in which the Nicaraguan Government proposed an initiative in the aforementioned agreement that stated: The Costa Rican, Salvadoran, Guatemalan, and Honduran presidents learned of the willingness expressed by constitutional Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra to develop a process of democratization and national reconciliation in his country, within the framework of the Esquipulas II agreements, according to the following actions, among others. The agreement then mentions all the actions that we have carried out during the entire time leading up to the electoral process. The same 14 February agreement announces that elections will he held not later than 25 February, 1990.

The agreement then refers to the contras. The agreement reads: According to the Nicaraguan president's proposal and to the Honduran president's initiative, the Central American presidents are committed to drafting—within a period not to exceed 90 days—a joint plan for the demobilization, repatriation, or voluntary relocation [desmobilization, repatriacion, o reubicacion voluntaria] in Nicaragua and third countries of members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] and their relatives. Points that deal with the demobilization of the contras follow, and then [the agreement] makes a general appeal to those who are openly sending aid to irregular groups in Central America, to cease such aid. Obviously, the United States is included in this group, because it has been sending so-called humanitarian aid to the counterrevolution.

Later, on 7 August 1989, the Tela agreement was signed in Honduras, in which we were more emphatic concerning the issue of demobilization, because on that occasion we talked about a deadline: the CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification] would be established within 30 days after the date the agreement was signed. The five Central American presidents urged the RN to accept implementation of the aforementioned plan and the 90-day deadline—beginning on the date the CIAV was established. During that 90-day period, the Nicaraguan Government and the CIAV would maintain direct contacts with the RN to promote their return to the country [20-second break in reception] when this plan begins, the CIAV would present a report on compliance with the plan.

Taking into account that the CIAV was established on 6 September, the contras should have been demobilized no later than 5 December, the 90-day deadline agreed upon by the Central American presidents. Then the San Isidro de Coronado agreement was signed, and the following appeal was made: The [Central American] presidents express their support for the Nicaraguan Government of President Daniel Ortega so that funds approved for the RN are delivered to the CIAV, after this agreement has been signed. In other words, the United States was clearly told to transfer the funds to the CIAV. The [United States] was told this very clearly for the first time, more clearly than on previous occasions.

Following the San Isidro de Coronado agreement, another agreement was signed that does not have the same weight as the Central American agreements, because its importance lies in Nicaragua's [word indistinct]. I am referring to the Toncontin agreement. In that agreement, the contras literally committed themselves to beginning the process of general demobilization of its forces, beginning with the disarmament of those that are still in Honduras, no later than 20 April. The agreement only mentions the contras who are in Honduras.

Later we learned about another agreement, which is very important—the transition agreement or protocol of procedures for the transfer of the Republic of Nicaragua's executive branch. In this document signed by [Defense Minister] General Humberto Ortega and Antonio Lacayo on behalf of Mrs. Chamorro, in the presence of His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, the following point was agreed upon: The implementation of the Toncontin agreement signed on 23 March 1990 in Tegucigalpa, Honduras for the demobilization of the RN forces before 25 April 1990—this date was added to the agreement—is essential to creating a climate of peace, stability and tranquility in which the transfer of power should take place. Therefore, it was clearly stated in the agreement for transition or transfer of power that the demobilization of the contras no later than 25 April is essential to creating the climate of peace, stability and tranquility necessary for the transfer of government.

After that, the Montelimar agreement was signed, which recognized the efforts of the Nicaraguan Government, which were clearly and widely recognized. Concerning the contras, the document clearly specifies supporting the protocol of procedures for the transfer of the Republic of Nicaragua's executive branch and asking ONUCA and CIAV to take the necessary steps to guarantee timely support for the demobilization and disarming of the RN members that are currently in Nicaragua or abroad, a process that should begin immediately and end no later than 25 April of this year. In other words, the Central American presidents have been clear in saying that the contras should be completely demobilized by 25 April. We even added that the weapons to be received by ONUCA must be destroyed on site.

Thereafter, we learned of another agreement signed between contra representatives and a delegation of the new government, the future government. This agreement was signed in Honduras on 9 April. The main part of the agreement stressed the need for having a contra delegation travel to Managua; it also states that the contras are willing to agree on a bilateral cease-fire with the Nicaraguan Government no later than 18 April, the conditions and phases of which would be determined with ONUCA's technical assistance.

Contra Delegation Arrives in Managua for Talks

PA1704191290 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1525 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Managua, 17 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—A contra delegation today arrived in Managua from Honduras to

analyze with President-elect Violeta Chamorro matters dealing with the demobilization of its combatants.

The rebel delegation arrived at Managua International Airport aboard a plane provided by the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA), which is headed by Spanish General Agustin Quesada.

The contras' mission, headed by Commander "Ruben" (Oscar Sovalbarro), immediately headed to the Archbishopric to meet Archbishop of Managua, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, who has been named witness and guarantor of the Nicaraguan peace accords.

Chamorro Discusses Meeting

PA1704213990 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2015 GMT 17 aPR 90

[Text] Managua, 17 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President-elect Violeta Chamorro today described as "friendly" a visit by a contra delegation, which arrived today in Managua, to discuss the demobilization of contra fighters with the incoming and outgoing governments.

Following a meeting with the rebel delegation at her residence, the president-elect expressed "gratitude" over the visit by the rebel military leaders, who arrived in the company of their political advisers.

"They came here to pay a friendly visit," said Chamorro, 61, when referring to the anti-Sandinist leaders, with whom she met for two hours behind closed doors.

The president-elect, who will assume power on 25 April, said that the rebels "have every right to come to Nicaragua" because they "seek the pacification" of this Central American nation.

When asked if the contras will demobilize before 25 April, the date set by the area's presidents, Chamorro responded: "They know what they have to do."

Present at the meeting were Antonio Lacayo, Chamorro's son-in-law and head of the transition team; Carlos Hurtado and Luis Sanchez, both of whom are members of the Lacayo team.

Commander "Ruben", who heads the rebel delegation, termed the meeting with Chamorro "important."

"I am pleased to be with the new government," the rebel leader pointed out, adding that "we fully support the Chamorro government."

The contra delegation arrived in Managua from Honduras aboard a plane provided by ONUCA.

Spanish General Agustin Quesada, ONUCA's chief, arrived with the rebel delegation.

Commander 'Ruben' Comments

PA1704211690 Paris AFP in Spanish 1831 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Managua, 17 Apr (AFP)—Nicaraguan contra military leader Oscar Sobalvarro (Commander Ruben) demanded today the disbandment and dissolution of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) as a condition for the demobilization of some 9,000 guerrillas infiltrated into Nicaragua. Sobalvarro, and three other Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) guerrillas, arrived in Managua today to discuss with the outgoing government the conditions for the transition of power on 25 April.

The contra guerrilla chiefs, who are aided by two political advisors, flew from Tegucigalpa to Managua aboard an airplane of ONUCA, accompanied by Spanish General Agustin Quesada. Upon their arrival in Managua, Sobalvarro insisted that for the contras to demobilize all their troops in Nicaragua, "there must a total demilitarization" in his country.

Asked by the press if his demand for "total demilitarization" meant the dissolution of the EPS, he replied: "That is clear." Moreover, RN Political Directorate member Aristides Sanchez said "the Nicaraguan people voted for the dismantling of the entire Sandinist military apparatus."

The rebel delegation, which includes Commanders "Wilmer" [Maximiliano Rodriguez], "Johnny," and "Dimas" [Marcos Orlando Navarro], will meet with Major General Joaquin Cuadra, deputy defense minister and chief of the EPS General Staff, to discuss a cease-fire that is to be verified by the international task force, as well as the arrival of the contras into five previously arranged enclaves.

On 16 April, President Daniel Ortega warned of the danger of a "civil war" if the rebels do not lay down their weapons before 25 April, when opposition leader Violeta Chamorro takes office. However, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, who will also meet with the contra leaders, told a local radio station today that he does fear the eruption of civil war, because "the people are sick of the violence."

On 23 March, delegates of the future Chamorro government and the RN, together with Cardinal Obando y Bravo as a witness, signed the Toncontin agreement, whereby the contra troops stationed in Honduras must demobilize on 20 April "at the latest."

Since the agreement was signed, reports from Honduras have indicated that rebel fighters have penetrated Nicaragua en masse to avoid having to lay down their weapons.

Sandinist General on Demobilization

PA1804003990 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2304 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Major General Joaquin Cuadra is leading the military commission that discussed demobilization issues this afternoon with an RN delegation led by Commander "Ruben," which arrived in the country this morning.

Maj. Gen. Cuadra told the media that they would only discuss the turnover of weapons and the enclaves where the rebels and their relatives will be relocated.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct].

[Cuadra] Mrs. Chamorro will rule all the Nicaraguans, and she will rule supported by the people's votes, which elected her president of the Republic. The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] leadership and President Ortega have stated that the FSLN, which is the most important political force in the country, will carry out a responsible opposition. That is what they have stated.

[Reporter] Referring to the EPS decision to maintain [words indistinct]?

[Cuadra] You know that a few weeks ago the outgoing and incoming presidents' transition teams reached important agreements that have already been publicized. There is a transition protocol that establishes the bases for the transition and [words indistinct] establishes a clear point when talking about military issues.

[Reporter] Will you discuss these issues this afternoon?

[Cuadra] No, the discussions we will hold this afternoon have nothing to do with the transition agreement and protocol. The transition teams have already reached an agreement that was endorsed by the president-elect and President Ortega. We will discuss the practical implementation of the Toncontin agreement and the Montelimar agreement.

[Reporter] General, when the contra leaders arrived in the country this morning, they said that the disarmament of the counterrevolution is contingent upon the disarmament of the EPS. What is your opinion on this?

[Cuadra] Well, they can state their own views, but we will not discuss that issue today. Today we will discuss their entrance to the security zones and the signing of a definite ceasefire. These are specific topics concerning the implementation of the Tela agreement, not general issues of another nature. [end recording]

Lacayo Says Cease-Fire To Be Signed '18 April'

PA1704214390 Paris AFP in Spanish 2035 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Managua, 17 Apr (AFP)—A cease-fire in Nicaragua "will be signed tomorrow, 18 April," between the contras and the Sandinist People's Army (EPS), Antonio Lacayo, main adviser to President-elect Violeta de Chamorro, announced today.

At the conclusion of a lengthy meeting between the future president and the Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) delegation that arrived in the country this morning, the atmosphere of uncertainty prevailing in recent days was suddenly cleared when Lacayo said that peace in Nicaragua "is more than possible."

In the presence of guerrilla leader Oscar Sovalbarro, Commander "Ruben," Violeta de Chamorro thanked the members of the delegation for their visit because "they have come looking for peace."

Likewise, Ruben no longer insisted that the EPS must be disarmed as a condition for the demobilization of his troops, as he had stated upon arriving in Managua this morning, and added that "everything can be negotiated."

Referring to this, Lacayo denied that the issue of a parallel disarmament had been discussed during the meeting with Chamorro, and explained that "the cease-fire could probably be signed tomorrow, 18 April."

The president-elect's adviser said that once a cease-fire is reached the rebels would enter the five security enclaves established in different regions of the country, and that the UN's blue helmets would supervise the implementation of the agreement.

Meanwhile, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo stated his confidence that "there will be no civil war" in Nicaragua, thus denying the statements issued last evening by President Daniel Ortega.

The cardinal said that "everything will be settled when power is shared, and I believe that Violeta will have part of the power and the Sandinists will have the other part, because they have the cannons."

Lacayo refused to discuss the issue and said that "an important" meeting will be held this afternoon between Vice Defense Minister Major General Joaquin Cuadra, the RN delegation, Chamorro's delegates, Cardinal Obando, and the UN and OAS delegates.

Furthermore, RN Directorate member, Aristides Sanchez, stated that his delegation did not come to Nicaragua to "negotiate quotas of power," but to "try to achieve a stable peace."

Following its arrival in the country, the rebel delegation met with Cardinal Obando, and later with Chamorro.

Approximately 30 people gathered in front of the future president's residence and demanded the disarmament of the rebels, chanting the slogan "we do not want guards," in reference to ousted dictator Anastasio Somoza's former National Guard.

The contras were scheduled to lunch with Vice President-elect Virgilio Godoy and then participate in a negotiation meeting—which observers term as "crucial"—with the EPS delegation.

Cease-Fire Reportedly Postponed

PA1804043690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0409 GMT 18 Apr 90

[Text] Managua, 17 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—Representatives of the EPS and the Nicaraguan contras, who met in Managua today, have agreed to postpone the signing of a document that is to establish a permanent cease-fire in the eight-year war in Nicaragua.

According to sources at the meeting, the document will outline the five security zones in which the rebels are to be gathered before subsequently turning in their weapons to the ONUCA.

The Sandinist delegation was headed by EPS Chief of Staff Joaquin Cuadra, while the rebel delegation was headed by Commander "Ruben" [Oscar Sovalbarro].

Handicapped Contras To Turn in Damaged Weapons

PA1804040090 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0235 GMT 18 Apr 90

[Text] Yamales, Honduras, 17 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan contras today enlisted 300 handicapped fighters to turn in their damaged weapons to the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) tomorrow, Wednesday, 18 April, at noon in Yamales, a Honduran town on the border with Nicaragua.

"We do not have any active fighter or any weapon that works here," Commander "Chino" (Carlos Garcia) told ACAN-EFE. Garcia is one of the organizers of the anti-Sandinists' disarmament and demobilization.

Garcia, who lost a leg when he stepped on a mine in Nicaraguan territory, explained that "the bulk of our army is still active and left Yamales over the last few weeks the mountains of my country's mountains."

In this military citadel, which was the anti-Sandinists' general headquarters for nine years, the only useful weapons are those carried by the Venezuelan soldiers who arrived to monitor the disarmamemt and demobilization process.

The handicapped fighters will turn in old .50-caliber and 12.5-mm machineguns, mortars, AK-47 automatic rifles, and Redeye missiles. These last weapons are of U.S. manufacture.

"The missiles are all right, but we have nothing to fire them with," the contra commander noted.

Preparations for tomorrow's ceremony will be finalized this afternoon by ONUCA personnel and anti-Sandinist leaders.

The ceremony for the delivery of the weapons, around 1,000 in all, will be held in an open field surrounded by olive green field tents and huts lined with plastic and cardboard.

Besides reporters, there will be military observers and even diplomats on hand in Yamales. Most of the spectators will be civilians and children.

The disarmament in Yamales will only symbolize the end of anti-Sandinist military activities in Honduran territory because they will continue in Nicaragua, the contras have asserted.

UNO Team Questions Chamorro on Use of Funds

PA1704181490 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] We have received a copy of a letter addressed to:

Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president-elect of the Republic of Nicaragua, and members of the National Political Council, National Opposition Union [UNO]:

The undersigned, members of the central campaign team who were a very important factor in the UNO victory during the past elections, respectfully address you and request the following:

Antonio Lacayo, national campaign manager, and Carlos Hurtado, national organization chief, should be called upon to explain, in detail, the use of over $800,000; that is, 80 billion cordobas. It is inconceivable that they have received and handled those funds as they saw fit and yet to this date have not reported to anyone, much less the UNO National Political Council, how they used such an amount of money.

We are firmly convinced that they and you have an obligation to report, in detail, to the Nicaraguan people the use of each and every penny.

Party Leader Discourages Proposed Labor Strike

PA1804035690 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2349 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Interview with Agustin Jarquin Anaya, president of the Christian Democratic Party, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Jarquin] Well, one fact is clear, and that is that the demobilization of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] is an ongoing process. The arrival of the commanders and top RN leaders in Managua this morning, under the auspices of ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America], is a very important step that demonstrates

their willingness to honor the Toncontin agreements, as well as the stipulations of the transition protocol.

Therefore, we believe that this pressure tactic is not in line with events, specifically with the RN's disarmament process. We believe that the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] should adopt a better attitude and refrain from creating an artificial, tense situation which benefits no one, particularly not the Nicaraguan people.

[Reporter] What consequences would there be for the nation, if those organizations carry out their threats of staging a strike, just when the country is preparing for a transition of government?

[Jarquin] We believe that the FSLN will not find it necessary to do this, that it will not take place. Well then, Nicaraguan workers in general, above and beyond their party preferences, should realize that a common effort is required to make it posssible for the process of national reconstruction and reconciliation among all Nicaraguans to advance. This would be beneficial to all. If some of them become involved in initiatives aimed at destabilizing or uselessly sabotaging the process of reconstruction, economic recovery, and national reconstruction, they would be harming their own interests. Therefore, we believe that it would not be an intelligent move for the labor sector, even the sector that is linked to the FSLN, to act in this manner, because this would be an attack on the stability and well-being of the workers themselves and their families.

Protesters Demand Contra Demobilization

PA1804014390 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2338 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Report by Celso Martinez in Matagalpa]

[Text] Tires have been burning in several parts of the city since early this morning. More tires were burned at approximately 1100 in front of the home of Jaime Cuadra Somarriba, National Opposition Union [UNO] National Assembly deputy, who is also a member of the transition commission for the agriculture sector. The smoke from the burning tires affected many children, who were brought to a private clinic located nearby for medical assistance.

Traffic in the area between the National Bank and the municipal offices, located on the same intersection as the National Sandinist Youth's headquarters, has been interrupted because people are burning more tires and urging others to protest because the contras have not been disarmed. Many public employees have decided to go home since, as many of them said, they are tired of being manipulated and used in protests they have nothing to do with.

Members of cooperatives who own public-transportation buses in the urban and rural areas have been notified that they must bring their vehicles to Managua on Monday, 23 April, adding that they must carry signs demanding the contras' demobilization. People who abstain from heeding the regional transportation office's call will be, quote, put on record, unquote, and they will not be able to receive the documents which state that they have paid their debts. Even though there are a few taxis in Matagalpa, pressure has also been exerted on those who could not purchase their Lada vehicle. [sentence as heard] Tension has been created in Matagalpa by Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] activists since yesterday evening. They threw rocks at Jaime Cuadra Somarriba's house. Also, a state-owned radio station has been attacking Jaime Cuadra Somarriba, Santiago Ulises Rivas Leclerc, and Juan Francisco Castillo, who are in charge of controlling the transition commissions on the regional level. The local radio station has been attacking these persons, holding them responsible if the contras' are not demobilzed, thus disavowing the stipulations outlined in the Toncontin agreement, which was signed on 23 March in Tegucigalpa.

Sandinists Reportedly Pressure Drivers To Protest

PA1804035190 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2335 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] In Chinandega, the Sandinists are forcing taxi drivers to travel to Managua and participate in a protest demonstration. Chinandega taxi drivers said today that Chinandega Department Sandinist leaders are blackmailing them into participating in a demonstration by taxi drivers in Managua tomorrow.

The Sandinists are offering them tax-exemption privileges if they go to Managua in their vehicles and demand the demobilization of the contras. We have a statement by a taxi driver:

[Begin unidentified taxi driver recording] We have been given Lada vehicles, but they are not gifts because we are paying for them. Now they have come up with the story that they will relieve us from making tax payments on the vehicles. However, a Mr. Alvaro Garcia, from Leon, who is a member of the regional transport office, has told us that if we do not go tomorrow, Wednesday [18 April] to protest because the contras have not been demobilized, and over some other Sandinist causes, they will not consider payments on the vehicles. [sentence as heard]

Most of the people who have taxis do not want gifts. We want to pay the total cost of the vehicle. We do not want these gentlemen pressuring us or our board of directors into going along with foul play and paying attention to this Mr. Alvaro. The board is also pressuring us to go to that demonstration, but we do not agree with it because we have nothing to do with the contras. The contras could be a problem for the Sandinist People's Army or the police, but we have nothing to do with that.

We want to publicly state this so that other taxi drivers in Nicaragua realize that we should not be harassed in this manner. Ten years of harassment is enough. [end recording]

Panama

Savings Accounts Scheduled To Be Released 25 Apr

PA1704200890 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1734 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Statement by Second Vice President and Planning and Economy Minister Guillermo Ford on 17 April in Panama City—recorded]

[Text] The National Banking Commission [CBN], over which I have the honor of presiding, held a meeting this morning and authorized the release of all savings accounts—in other words, 500,000 savings accounts, or a totalling, approximately, 270 million balboas [one balboa equals one U.S. dollar]. This measure will become effective next Wednesday, 25 April. In this manner, the banking system is normalized, as far as savings accounts are concerned.

We believe this is a great contribution by the government, and I want to congratulate the distinguished bankers who have contributed toward this measure. Naturally, this measure includes the National Bank of Panama and the Panamanian Savings Bank, which are state banking institutions and part of the national banking system.

The measure does not include time deposits that will be treated according to other studies we are conducting. So that the Panamanian people will see the seriousness of the current administration of President Endara, savings accounts will be released—I repeat—as of next Wednesday, 25 April. There will be absolutely no restrictions of any nature on these savings accounts.

Meanwhile, the national government has also authorized payment of interest on treasury notes to the banks. These treasury notes are part of the banks' assets. These measures are contrary to the actions of the previous regime. Against their will, the serious bankers of this country were forced to freeze these accounts. However, due to the political situation our country has been experiencing over the past three years, all savings accounts were frozen. This is a thing of the past. Panama is a country where democracy prevails, and the economy will continue to grow at the rate we have planned for the benefit of all Panamanians, including, in particular, the poor and the unemployed, who are the main concern of the president and his government team.

'University Christian Democracy' Group Created

PA1704190490 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 April 90 p 3B

[Resolution issued by the University Christian Democracy (Democracia Cristiana Universitaria), DCU, in Panama City on 8 April]

[Text] Whereas:

1. The University Christian Democracy has been created for the purpose of constituting an active and critical organization within the university and national political fields.

2. As a result of the narcomilitarism of the past years and the permanent effects of U.S. military action, the Panamanian state's economy is at its lowest point and in need of joint support from the democratic governments of the world.

3. Panamanian society requires the implementation of new initiatives to cope with economic, social, and cultural problems to reduce unemployment, crime, and family and social disintegration, within a real strategy that will encourage the people's participation, reject paternalism, and promote creativity.

4. The systematic practice of manipulation, corruption, trafficking influence, and the exchange of sinecures have submerged our university centers in a grave credibility crisis that directly affects the identity, functioning, and basic services of our universities.

5. Some anarchic groups continue to play a predominant role at the universities through covert support they receive from university authorities and due to the general apathy that prevails within the student body, which prevents the necessary democratization and reorganization of our universities.

The DCU resolves to:

1. Maintain a critical attitude concerning the actions of the new government of reconstruction for the purpose of guaranteeing compliance with the postulates of integrity, justice, and honesty.

2. Contact university student organizations in Latin America to request, on an urgent basis, actions that will show their solidarity with the [Panamanian] universities and the Panamanian people in general.

3. Promote social integration at the universities through actions that will require student participation, giving them the opportunity to maximally develop their human and professional potential, rejecting any attempt to divide the university community.

4. Demand probity from the management of the Technological and National Universities of Panama through adequate reorganization of its administration and statutes to ensure honesty within the university's administration.

5. Encourage university students to support the actions carried out by students with democratic convictions and to report the corruption of pseudo-leaders who are committed to the university administration.

Issued in Panama City on 8 April 1990 by Christian Democratic leaders in the University of Panama and the Technological University of Panama:
Central Campus
Regional Centers in Chiriqui, Veraguas, Chitre, Las Tablas, Cocle, Colon
Tocumen Branch

Argentina

Menem Interviewed on Meeting With Union Leaders

PY1704215690 Buenos Aires AMBITO FINANCIERO in Spanish 16 Apr 90 p 4

[Text] Mar del Plata—The presence of President Carlos Menem in Mar del Plata, publicly attributed to Menem's desire to pay tribute to fishing sector union leader Abdul Saravia, gave the president a chance to talk with union leaders Lorenzo Miguel, Diego Ibanez, Luis Barrionuevo, and Lesio Romero. The president also had a chance "to see in the leaders' faces their reaction to the government initiative that seeks to regulate the right to go on strike."

Not only did Carlos Menem meet with the labor leaders on Saravia's birthday, but he also had lunch with them (Ibanez was the only leader missing) at a restaurant in the port sector.

After lunch the president gave the following exclusive interview to AMBITO FINANCIERO:

[AMBITO FINANCIERO] Will the results of this meeting encourage union support for the government?

[Menem] The boys are running this very well. At the birthday party we talked with Lorenzo Miguel and with Luis (Barrionuevo), whom I see every day. I believe they have the most genuine desire to unify the labor movement, but to achieve that it is necessary to harmonize a series of positions and attitudes. There is one labor movement that continues to think the way workers thought in 1946. There is another labor movement that has integrated itself into the modern world and that shares the ideas of Lech Walesa and Giorgio Benvenutto.

[AMBITO FINANCIERO] Some people believe the march on 6 April has shown that the government has such broad support it may do without political accords.

[Menem] Argentine parties are undoubtedly going through a crisis. In the world of democracy, however, no one can do without political parties, which create and nurture democracy. If the party supports us we will continue to work as we have been doing so far. I hope the party will always support us. Otherwise, if it does want to support us.... [sentence as published] On the other hand, I am a party member. I am the party vice president. The party supports our economic proposal and our work. We will not tolerate the party turning into an obstacle that may stop us.

[AMBITO FINANCIERO] After the first formal meeting in the search for a political accord, Cafiero mentioned the need to modify the economic program in the social sector. Could the accord become an alliance that would place conditions on the government?

[Menem] No, I don't think so. I read the statement by Cafiero, and I talked with him. No criticism has been made. Cafiero has endorsed the document that the Justicialist Party issued to express its unconditional support for the government and for its economic policy. I found no criticism in the statement by Cafiero. I reiterate, however, that if he actually made such critical remarks I will talk with him. However, the government will not take a single step backward.

[AMBITO FINANCIERO] An important issue in the agreement is constitutional reform. What do you think about it?

[Menem] Certain aspects should not be discussed. The Constitution establishes untouchable duties, rights, and guarantees. It has been like that for years; there is no need to get involved in that field. I do think it is necessary, however, to make some changes in issues such as presidential reelection—reducing the presidential term to four years and allowing reelection. My position regarding a prime minister is absolutely no; my thought on that issue is definite, and no one is going to make me change my mind.

[AMBITO FINANCIERO] In your particular case, have you considered the possibility of being reelected?

[Menem] Well, that is not up to me; it depends on the Argentine people and how the government is doing. If the government is doing well, it is possible that the people would want to reelect the president. If my administration does not work...but I believe it is going to work. Then the ballots will decide.

[AMBITO FINANCIERO] As a member of the Justicialist Party, what do you think of the candidacy of Ubaldini for Buenos Aires governor?

[Menem] According to the Constitution any citizen in Argentina can become a candidate for office. If the requirements of age and ability are fulfilled, there is no impediment. Therefore, Ubaldini can be a candidate for deputy, senator, president, councilman, or mayor. It depends on him and on his followers.

Cavallo Discloses Menem's Upcoming Visits Abroad

PY1704211190 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] One of the promises made by President George Bush, to visit Argentina, will come true when he visits here on 16 September. This was confirmed by Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo at Government House today.

Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today met with President Carlos Menem to discuss various issues. Minister Cavallo asserted that U.S. President George Bush will visit Argentina during the week beginning 16 September as part of his tour of several Latin American countries.

Cavallo also confirmed that in early June President Menem will participate in a meeting of the Group of Fifteen to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and did not dismiss the possibility that Menem will attend the

inaugural match—Argentina versus Cameroon—of the World Soccer Cup on 8 June in Italy.

Minister Cavallo met with President Menem before leaving today for Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, to participate in the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs [GATT] meeting, which Cavallo said is an international body designed to promote free trade.

[Begin Cavallo recording] The president will be in the countries with which we maintain fluid relations at the appropriate moment. It is also important that the foreign minister be present, this is why I am constantly travelling abroad. We try not to let our travel plans interfere with our intense activities at home. The president has just told me that he has accepted an invitation to Emperor Akihito's coronation in Japan on 12 November. He will also participate in the founding meeting of the so-called Group of Fifteen for dialogue, trade, and South-South cooperation that will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 1-3 June. [end recording]

Minister Cavallo said that, on his way back, it is quite likely that President Menem will visit some European countries, visits that were suspended early this year due to the country's economic situation. Suitable new dates for the visits still remain to be discussed with the respective countries. The minister also did not dismiss the possibility that, considering the meeting of the Group of Fifteen ends on 3 June, President Menem may travel to Italy on 8 June to participate in the inauguration of the World Soccer Cup Italia-90.

Foreign Minister To Meet Baker in May or June

PY1804031490 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0024 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (TELAM)—Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today confirmed that he will go to the United States "late in May or early in June" to meet with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker "to discuss in further detail topics related to increasing trade between the two countries, and to attempt to promote direct investments in Argentina."

Cavallo made this announcement at a news conference this afternoon at the Foreign Ministry before leaving for Mexico to attend the Uruguayan round of GATT [General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs] talks. [passage omitted]

Cavallo told reporters that he will meet with Baker during the second half of May or the first half of June; that is, after the scheduled visit to Washington by Economy Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez.

The foreign minister will seek to reinforce at the State Department the negotiations to be conducted by the economy minister with U.S. financial organizations and with multilateral credit organizations. He will also seek to obtain further improvements in our trade relations with the United States. [passage omitted]

Commenting on bilateral trade with the United States, Cavallo said that during his stay in Mexico, he will meet with U.S. Trade Representative Carla A. Hills and request that the United States revise and eliminate its surcharges on Argentine exports. He said that although these surcharges "do not prevent our access to the market, they affect our prices."

Foreign Minister Leaves for Mexico GATT Talks

PY1804012190 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2337 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (TELAM)—At 2000 today, Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo left for Mexico to attend the Uruguayan round of the GATT (General Agreement on Tariff and Trade) talks.

Cavallo left on Argentine Airlines Flight 332 which will stopover in Miami. Shortly before boarding his plane, Cavallo made brief remarks about the talks he will hold with his GATT counterparts.

Cavallo said he hoped "the tense situation that has prevailed in recent months" may yield "possible agreements." He noted that "a draft of the negotiations within the Uruguayan round of GATT talks should be ready by June so that it may be discussed in Brussels in December."

Finally, Cavallo stated that "Argentina will uphold its position in favor of free trade and the access of primary products to the international market."

Supreme Court Justice Bacque Submits Resignation

PY1704151690 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2349 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Apr (TELAM) — It was officially confirmed tonight at the Justice Ministry that Supreme Court Justice Jorge Antonio Bacque submitted his resignation today.

No detailed information has been released, but it was learned that the resignation has been submitted to President Carlos Menem.

Navy Chief Receives Missile-Carrying Corvette

PY1704181990 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1518 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Summary] Rear Admiral Jorge Osvaldo Ferrer, the Navy chief of staff, presided over the ceremony in which the missile-carrying corvette Parker was received. The Parker is identical to the corvettes Rosales, Espora, and Spiro which are already operational.

Workers' Right To Strike 'Will Not' Be Violated

PY1704203190 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Pedro Guggiari Baez is reporting from the Labor Minister where it has been announced that the plan to regulate the right to strike will be discussed this coming week with the labor unions and other interested parties.

[Begin recording] [Guggiari] That is right. The meeting will possibly be held sometime around 18 or 19 April. We have asked Labor Minister Jorge Triacca whether the right to strike should not be regulated by law since it is a constitutional right.

[Triacca] This is what is being discussed. We will not violate the Constitution let alone that kind of right. For example, you exercise freedom of the press which is a constitutional right. We all defend that right and this is the same type of situation. Therefore, under no circumstances are we going to deprive the people of this right. It is important to emphasize that we are not going to deprive our children from going to school or our workers from going to work. All this must be perfectly understood. One must take into account the small income that the workers of the entire Argentine society receive, because I am certain that all workers are in a similar situation. It is important to note that this plan does not benefit any sector in particular, as in the past. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Army Conducts Exercises in Chapare Coca Region

PY1704232490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2114 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] La Paz, 17 Apr (EFE)—A Bolivian Army battalion has been operating since last week in the cocaine producing region of Chapare. Officials have denied, however, that this amounts to the Army's direct involvement in fighting the drug trade.

It has been officially reported that 300 men of the "Barrientos" Battalion have been deployed to Chapare, in the Bolivian central region, to participate in training exercises and in civic military activity. Senior officers said this battalion will be replaced by others to ensure the Army's presence in that subtropical valley, where 80 percent of Bolivia's coca is grown. Bolivia is the world's second largest producer of coca, the raw material used to produce cocaine. Peru is the largest.

The presence of the Army battalion in the Chapare region coincides with a public controvery that began last year about the need for the Bolivian Army to get directly involved in the fight against drugs. The fight against drugs in Bolivia has been entrusted to a special police unit of 1,090 men. Government officials believe, however, that this work force is insufficient and its weapons are inferior to those used by drug traffickers.

General Rolando Espinosa Lora, the Army commander, yesterday rejected rumors spread by peasant leaders about the militarization of the Chapare region. He said: "The military presence in the region is related to production efforts in plots owned by the Army." General Espinosa insisted that the troops are not there to get involved in the fight against drugs, but to participate "in regular military training maneuvers."

However, the chief of the 7th Army Division, which has jurisdiction over the Chapare region, stated that although the military presence there does not amount to Armed Forces' involvement in the fight against drug trade, it will be "a psychological deterrent" to that activity.

The Bolivian Constitution states that the Armed Forces may perform duties entrusted to the police only when the police have been overpowered and are unable to accomplish their mission, a situation that has not yet been officially declared. Sources close to the government of Jaime Paz Zamora today told EFE that if the president decides to order the Army to intervene in the fight on drugs, the Army will participate with special units, not with regular troops.

The sources said that military involvement in the fight against drugs has not yet been decided and that, if approved, its role will be outlined in a program that will include not only repression, but also preventive and civic actions.

The spokesmen said, however, that the military presence in Chapare "is in no way related" to the fight against drugs.

Bolivian and U.S. Government representatives have been holding bilateral negotiations to approve $40 million in U.S. aid to the Bolivian Army, aid that will be conditioned on the Bolivian Army's involvement in the fight against the drug trade. Diplomatic sources have told EFE that those talks are at a stage of "reconciling positions," because while Bolivia insists on presenting plans for equipment and for the creation of new battalions, the United States demands a concrete "plan of action" to fight the drug trade.

Defense Minister on Fighting Drug Trafficking

PY1804023490 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 18 Mar 90

[Text] Defense Minister Hector Ormachea said today that no decision has yet been made on the possible participation of the Armed Forces in the struggle against drug trafficking. He added that a decision of this nature can only be made by the president, who is the commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

[Begin Ormachea recording] I would like to report that two branches, the Air Force and the Navy, have for a long time been providing logistical support for the units of the special force involved in the struggle against drug trafficking, which is in charge of doing the work of interdiction. The Army is the only branch that is not involved. Regarding an overall and well structured participation of the Armed Forces in this struggle, no decision has yet been made by the president. [end recording]

Brazil

CNEN Rejects 'Interference' in Nuclear Program

PY1804032890 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Brazil wants to discuss the new Brazilian nuclear program, but will not allow foreign interference in its execution, according to the National Nuclear Energy Commission [CNEN] president.

Brazil will not allow international interference in its nuclear program, affirmed CNEN President Jose Luiz Santana, reacting to a report published today that the Central Intelligence Agency [CIA] of the United States might be concerned about nuclear production in the Third World and particularly in Brazil.

[Begin Santana recording] In case the CIA is concerned about some matters regarding our internal affairs, at the least I would say that it is interference. The Brazilian Government does not accept this type of interference. This will be the first time we discuss our nuclear program openly, even with scientific entities and organizations. Indeed, we want to discuss the new Brazilian nuclear program openly. [end recording]

The group [not further identified] that is discussing the Brazilian nuclear program has 60 days to submit its conclusions. For the first time entities that used to criticize the program and had not been consulted in the drafting of the program are participating in the discussions.

Resolutions Signed To Inject Money Into Economy

PY1804030090 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] The government has released new cruzados from car buyers' clubs and extended by 30 days the deadline for payment of IPI [Manufactured Goods Tax] on cars.

In a ceremony in his office on the third floor of the Planalto Palace, President Fernando Collor de Mello watched Economy, Finance, and Planning Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello signing two resolutions. The first one allows the administrators of car buyers' clubs to transfer credits in the new cruzado accounts existing on 15 March 1990, when the government implemented the New Brazil Plan for economic stabilization. The transfer of credits can be made within a period of up to 90 days, by an agreement between the administrators and the car dealers, and between the car dealers and the car makers.

To simplify the operation, in another resolution, Minister Cardoso de Melo extended for another 30 days the deadline for the industry to pay the tax on manufactured goods, the IPI, for cars manufactured in March.

These resolutions will allow, for instance, the sale of more than 20,000 cars that have already been awarded through the car buyers. The car makers now have 30,000 cars in stock awaiting buyers.

With the measures adopted, President Collor has begun to stimulate the economy by using the car manufacturing industry, which should increase the production and sale of parts, steel, glass, rubber, plastic, and paint—activities that give employment to thousands of workers.

President Collor also said that later this week the government will continue efforts to stimulate the economy by establishing rules for financing the sale of used cars.

Government Expects No Inflation for April

PY1704151290 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Excerpt] The government expects no inflation for April. As a consequence, salaries, including the minimum salary, will be the same as in March. Neither rents nor school fees will be adjusted.

According to Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello, the inflation prediction was based on price variations for the 16 March-15 April period collected by the Sao Paulo Economic Research Institute, DIEESE [Interunion Department of Statistics and Socioeconomic Studies], Sunab [National Superintendency of Supplies], and partial data supplied by the IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics]. The minister said that this data also reflected a deflation during the aforementioned period. Therefore, salaries have experienced a real purchasing power increase of 12 to 18 percent.

[Begin Cardoso recording] Those people who received their salaries during early April have enjoyed greater purchasing power, which we estimate at between 12 and 18 percent. [end recording]

The April value of the BTN [National Treasury Bond] will also remain unchanged. Interest rates for saving accounts, according to Economic Policy Secretary Antonio Kandir, will be adjusted by one-half percent since, according to the law, the adjustment is made according to the BTN variation plus one-half percent. Antonio Kandir also said that on 1 May the government will disclose the estimated maximum price adjustment. [passage omitted]

Survey Shows Large Support for Collor's Plan

PY1704154690 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Apr 90 p 1

[Text] According to a Data Folha Survey conducted in 10 capitals on 11 April—nearly a month after implementation of the Collor Plan—71 percent of the population considers the Collor Plan good for the country. Another survey on 21 March had shown the approval rate at 81 percent, 10 points higher than the current approval rate. The fear of unemployment jumped from 48 percent to 68 percent. On another item 53 percent of those questioned think that the government will not return, or will only return a part of, the money that it has blocked in bank accounts. The plan received the greatest support in Belem (81 percent) and the least support in Porto Alegre (60 percent). The survey questioned 5,291 people.

Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello is quoted in FOLHA'S PAINEL section as saying that the Data Folha survey shows that the government is "on the right path."

* State Enterprises End 1989 With Deficit

90SM0002D Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Mar 90 p 4

[Text] Brasilia—The 165 state enterprises showed an operational deficit last year of 11.8 billion new cruzados at December 1989 prices, representing 0.87 percent of the gross domestic product. This proved the official government estimate wrong, which was that the accounts would balance. The largest deficit shown was for the Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] Holding Company (7.1 billion cruzados), followed by the Petrobras Group (6.1 billion cruzados), Itaipu Binational (3.9 billion), and the Telebras [Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc.] Group (3.4 billion). The state sector as a whole, including the 17 federal financial institutions, received subsidies from the treasury in the amount of 16 billion new cruzados. The Bank of Brazil alone absorbed 4.2 billion cruzados from the treasury coffers for special payments to equalize the prices of wheat and sugar, to establish regulatory stocks, and to make foreign debt payments with treasury guarantees.

According to the preliminary figures on the budgetary operations of the state enterprises, which were released yesterday, investments in the sector accounted for a smaller percentage of the gross domestic product in 1989 than in any other year in the past decade. Last year, the investment total came to 2.34 percent of the gross domestic product (December 1989 values). In 1981, the figure was 5.27 percent. "This is proof that the state has lost its financing capacity," the secretary for control of state enterprises, Iran Siqueira Lima, comments.

The debts falling due last December to suppliers and contractors alone came to 10.6 billion cruzados, at December prices. Adding together the domestic and foreign debts due, the figure came to 83.1 billion cruzados. The 165 state enterprises taken together owe 838 billion cruzados, including long-term debts.

The greatest operational losses were seen for Portobras [Brazilian Ports Enterprise] and the Federal Railway Network, S.A., with 10.1 billion and 3 billion cruzados, respectively. Siqueira Lima attributes this development to the tardy restructuring of public rates. The leaders in operational profits were Eletrobras [Brazilian Electric Power Company, Inc.], with 8.6 billion cruzados, the Vale do Rio Doce Company, with 8.2 billion, and Telebras [Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc.], with 6.3 billion.

The number of state enterprise employees increased by 19,024 between 1988 and 1989. The reasons for the increase were the replacement of cadres, the establishment of the fourth labor shift (to conform to the Constitution), and the activation of the personnel with whom contracts have been signed for the rendering of services. According to the official figures for December 1989, the state enterprises had a total of 864,801 employees (656,029 for the enterprises in the productive sector, and 208,772 for the financial institutions). The largest employers are the Postal and Telegraph Company (74,440), Petrobras (60,028), and the railway network (59,585). The Bank of Brazil has 134,349 employees, and the Federal Economic Fund has 45,480. The highest salaries on the executive level, which have now reached 400,000 per month, are paid by Maranhao Telecommunications (TELMA) and Minas Gerais Telecommunications (Telemig). TELMA also pays the best wages—400,000 cruzados—to the highest ranking employees.

* Embraer Recovers in 1988, Loses in 1989

90SM0002C Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Mar 90 p 16

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos—Last year, Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] showed a net profit of $89 million, recovering from its losses of $35 million the preceding year. The total invoiced by this state aircraft manufacturer increased 34 percent between 1988 and 1989, from $519 million to $692 million. Despite this development, the Securities Commission (CVM) ruled that the enterprise could not distribute dividends to its 250,000 stockholders.

The superintendent and director of Embraer, Ozilio Silva, said yesterday at the headquarters of the enterprise that the CVM only issues an authorization for the payment of dividends if both balance sheets show a profit—the overall correction balance, which is updated monthly by the BTN [National Treasury Bonds], and that drafted on the basis of the company regulations, in which the cruzado values are not corrected at all. As inflation came to 1,674.86 percent in 1989, the cruzado loss on the Embraer balance sheet which was not corrected came to $42 million.

Ozilio Silva gave assurance yesterday that the two balance sheets—one showing losses and another showing profits—have not changed the attitude of the investors, because the stock which showed the greatest increase on the Sao Paulo Stock Exchange between January and

February of this year was Embraer PN, which reached 3,831.41 percent, with a cumulative rate of inflation of 169.73 percent for the first 2 months of 1990. The major advance for this stock occurred in February, when it went up 828.16 percent as a result of the rumor that Embraer will be transferred to the private sector after president-elect Fernando Collor takes office.

Investment

Of the total of $692 million invoiced by Embraer last year, $505 million came from exports. In 1988, the enterprise exported goods worth a total of $322 million, such that there was an increase from one year to the next of 56 percent. Almost all of the exports resulted from sales, mainly to the United States, of the Brasilia model—a pressurized twin-engine turboprop with 30 seats. The AMX pursuit plane brought in foreign exchange totaling $55 million, accounting for 11 percent of the export total.

This year, Embraer expects to invoice goods worth a total of $940 million, of which $624 million will be earned from exports. The enterprise expects to import equipment worth $460 million, which will leave it with a trade balance of $164 million. Also this year, the number of employees is expected to reach 13,352. Last year, the figure was 12,607, so that the anticipated increase in personnel comes to 5.9 percent.

Embraer expects to invest about $166 million this year ($125 million last year). A part of this investment—$140 million—will come from a new capital increase, and the balance will be obtained through the stock market, apart from the conversion of the Brazilian foreign debt into enterprise stocks. The liquid assets of the enterprise will increase from $416 million to $578 million in 1990.

Ozilio Silva said that Embraer is ready to be transferred to the private sector. He added that it may democratize its capital, exchanging stocks with voting rights for five or six large pension funds. He said that the funds of the Bank of Brazil and Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] employees alone each yield $100 million annually, of which $20 million a year could be applied in Embraer stocks.

* Changes in Role, Structure of SNI Viewed

90SM0002B Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Mar 90 p 5

[Article by Roberto Godoy]

[Text] During the administration of the president elect, Fernando Collor, the National Service for Intelligence (SNI) will undergo a change of name, but it will not die. It will in the future be known as the Special Secretariat for Strategic Affairs, and it will be greatly reduced in size, but it will not, however, decline in importance. At least four of the 12 state agencies have been closed, and five of the 10 sectorial offices will suffer the same fate. The personnel cadre, which has been gradually reduced throughout the past 5 years, now has a total of 2,100 employees, the same as in 1981. The network of informants, of whom there was an estimated total of 300,000 in 1984, has been virtually eliminated.

But none of the changes undergone by the leading intelligence-gathering body for the Presidency of the Republic will be as dramatic as that caused by the political reorientation. Stripped of its domestic function as a semi-police force, which it took on when the initial goals became distorted, the secretariat which will be the successor to the SNI will probably be headed by a civilian. And it will turn its attention again to providing data, subsidies, and reports to aid in the strategic assessment of issues such as the latest domestic technology, within an international context. An effort of this sort during the government of General Ernesto Geisel would have enabled the administration to protect itself effectively against the negative consequences of the international oil crisis in 1973. Without prior information, Geisel placed his reliance on the short duration of the period of high oil prices. We know what happened. According to the government economists themselves, the economic crisis in the country began precisely at that moment of imbalance.

The structure of the intelligence community will be altered as well. At the apex of the system there will continue to be the rebaptized SNI, but instead of the labyrinth of divisions, advisory offices, units, and departments involved in the present table of organization, the entire flow will be condensed into six modules linked directly with the Secretariat for Strategic Affairs, which in turn will report to the Office of the Presidency of the Republic. The security divisions in the network of civilian and state ministries will be dismantled. The task of safeguarding state secrets and the public patrimony will be the responsibility of professional teams or the Federal Police.

The successor to the head of this sector, Gen Ivan de Sousa Mendes, will not be a military officer. Two possibilities for the post have been mentioned—businessman Pedro Paulo Ramos, a friend of Collor's, and Ambassador Lindolfo Collor, the uncle of the president-elect. Neither, however, is regarded as a favorite.

Clandestine Government

The SNI, which managed to acquire an advanced network of computers and coding and decoding machines (Prologo), has throughout its history been burdened by the cloudy episode involving the journalist Alexander von Baumgarten and the political pressure exerted on party leaders, and more directly, in the presidential campaigns, beginning in 1969—from the Medici era to that of Joao Figueiredo. The institution grew excessively, becoming a clandestine government with tremendous power. But it fell victim to gigantism, immobilized by the weight of so many sections and lines of command, and it began to provide a product of low quality and little reliability.

In the international sector, however, it had its successes. During the Sarney administration, for example, the plans for commercial retaliation by the United States because of the market reserve policy in the data-processing field was known to the Planalto Palace long before the official announcement was made. And the moratorium declared by former minister of finance Dilson Funaro was announced at the moment regarded as most propitious by the intelligence services.

On the domestic level, however, the rehabilitation of the institution, after its constraining history of illegal telephone taps and personal files amassed on personalities in various sectors, only came about in November of last year. Two days before the second round of voting, the SNI submitted an analysis to President Jose Sarney predicting a triumph for Fernando Collor over the apparent favorite, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. The institution proved to be right, even as it was ceasing to exist.

Chile

Pinochet Cited on Human Rights Situation

PY1704124290 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2140 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Santiago, 16 Apr (AFP) — In its 16 April issue, the Santiago weekly HOY reports that General Augusto Pinochet, former Chilean president, warned that he has 80,000 men to confront any possibility of bringing Armed Forces personnel to trial for human rights violations .

The report refers to a private meeting between Pinochet and rightist political leaders. During this meeting Pinochet recommended that the leaders concern themselves with tax reform, the fishery law, and other congressional projects of Patricio Aylwin's government.

According to the report, the former president and current commander in chief of the Army, referring to future investigations that could affect his subordinates, said: "I will look after the human rights situation."

According to the same report, Pinochet said, "I have 80,000 armed men. I have the solution," when the rightist leaders asked him how he was going to face the problem.

The weekly, linked to the Christian Democrats of which President Aylwin is a member, adds that Pinochet fears the new government's desire to "establish the truth and implement justice" could affect his own personal security.

General Pinochet's regime, which handed over the presidency on 11 March after being in power for 16 years and six months, is facing numerous charges of non-clarified political crimes, the disappearance of more that 700 detainees, and other human rights violations.

Remarks Neither Confirmed, Denied

PY1704202890 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Secretary General of Government Enrique Correa has made a statement regarding some remarks allegedly made by Pinochet to a weekly publication. According to the weekly, Pinochet said he has 80,000 armed men to respond to any possible attempt to try military officers for human rights violations.

[Begin recording] [Correa] It is a journalistic report of a private conversation. I have read the newspapers today. Some of the deputies and political leaders with whom Pinochet has allegedly met have categorically denied the report.

[Reporter] What is the government's position regarding trials of military officers for human rights violations?

[Correa] We have a commitment to the truth. You have heard the president say that. We think the country needs to know the truth. We have also said that the country needs reconciliation as much as the truth.

[Reporter] Does the government trust that the commission created for that purpose will clarify many of those incidents?

[Correa] If the president creates the commission, it is because he trusts it will help find out the truth and help heal the deep wounds in our society.

[Reporter] Do you think the Armed Forces should be represented in this commission?

[Correa] The president will designate those who will be members of the commission. The situation is in his hands. [end recording]

EL SIGLO Lists 900 Former CNI Agents

PY1704135890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1938 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] The communist newspaper EL SIGLO today published a list of 900 agents formerly working for the National Information Center (CNI), the secret police of Pinochet's former military regime. EL SIGLO also reports that the agency is still active under the Army and it is now called "BIE-2." [expansion unknown]

The newspaper, without citing sources, dedicates 24 pages of its recent issue to the CNI's organizational chart, the names of its chiefs and agents, their duties, and some agents' participation in incidents that ended in the death of opposition leaders during General Pinochet's regime.

The communist newspaper defines the secret police, its organization and activities, as "a systematic attempt to crush groups and people who fought for democracy." EL SIGLO says in an editorial that "we are not moved by revenge, but we would be hypocritical if we did not

recognize that we feel deeply offended, saddened, and shocked by the information we are publishing."

The newspaper argues that the report attempts to warn the population because "the system of terror remains intact as a heavy burden on the shoulders of the democratic government. We must know and denounce it so it will be dismantled for good."

EL SIGLO says the CNI was made up of a National Directorate, a deputy director's office, and nine divisions in charge of specific tasks. These divisions were: The Metropolitan Intelligence Division, the Computer Division, the Security Division, the Logistics Division, the Psychopolitical Division, the Foreign Intelligence Division, the Engineering Division, the National Intelligence School Division, and the Administration Division. The newspaper provides the divisions' functions and lists the agents working under them. The list totals 900 names and includes civilians, such as physicians, journalists, and other professionals.

The communist newspaper charges some agents with participating in assassinations and other activities still not resolved by the courts. The newspaper mentions the case of Alvaro Corbalan Castilla, former Army major and former CNI operations chief, who is pointed out as having headed the "Albania Operation" in June 1987 which resulted in the death of 12 Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) militants in alleged clashes. EL SIGLO also accuses Alvaro Corbalan with directing the kidnapping and murder of five communist militants in September 1987 who are still listed as missing. The newspaper says that an Army helicopter dropped the five communist militants into the ocean with weights tied to their feet and bellies opened to prevent them from floating. Alvaro Corbalan is currently the president of [word indistinct] National Renewal, which defines itself as "nationalistic and Pinochetist," a party that failed to elect any of its members to Congress in the December 1989 election.

The report also mentions former Carabineros' (militarized police) Captain Francisco Zuniga Arellano who is charged with personally killing his victims with a shot in the head.

The report also charges that Army Captain Ramiro Droguett (false name) personally killed Jecar Neghme, Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) leader, on 4 September 1989. According to EL SIGLO, Neghme's murder was an attempt at preventing the democratic forces from uniting, and Patricio Aylwin's winning the 14 December 1989 presidential election.

Interior Minister Comments

PY1704140490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0313 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Santiago, 16 Apr (EFE) — Lawyer Enrique Krauss, interior minister of President Patricio Aylwin's civilian government, today stated that the authorities already had knowledge of a list of 900 agents of the disbanded secret police of General Augusto Pinochet's military regime, which handed over the presidency on 11 March.

The minister said: "This list and other data are in the hands of the government. They had already been studied and in general terms they pertain to reports that have been received [sentence as received]. Therefore, they are not a substantial surprise to us."

The list was published today in the communist weekly EL SIGLO, which charges that the National Information Center (CNI, secret political police) is still active under the name of BIE-2 [expansion unknown], under the umbrella of the Army.

The official mouthpiece of the Communist Party, which is seeking legal status 16 years and 6 months after it went underground, directly accuses some CNI agents of having committed murders and other human rights violations that have still not been cleared up by the courts.

Krauss stated that the EL SIGLO report "is important as a news report and we also understand the publication's purpose is not to create a scandal, nor to be a call for acts of vengeance." The interior minister added that this charge was made, just as it simply states, to prevent such situations from occurring again in Chile."

Andres Dominguez, vice president of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, [words indistinct] that this organization "does not support the publication of lists of persons if there are no concrete accusations against them."

Carabineros Director Studies Article

PY1704202190 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange stated that he is studying the publication by the weekly EL SIGLO of a list of 900 names of presumed members of the now defunct CNI. He said that legal action will probably be taken within the next few days.

General Stange said this at the end of the ceremony marking the day of retired personnel at the Carabineros School.

[Begin Stange recording] I am studying this report calmly because it was published by the newspaper. As you know, this issue is in the hands of the courts, and the Carabineros have always stressed the need to end this problem. We are awaiting a final resolution. We are still studying what we will do regarding the publication. [end recording]

Asked about the work of Carabineros during the first month of the democratic regime, General Stange said

that police duties have not been changed. The Carabineros have worked hard to achieve the success we all desire.

MIR Faction Supports Democratization Process

PY1804024090 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 7 Apr 90 p 9

[Text] A faction of Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, yesterday indicated their willingness to join "the country's democratization process, independently participating in the quest to reconstruct a left that keeps pace with the new times."

MIR leaders Juan Luis Marre, Sebastian Vergara, Arturo Perez, Luis Aliste, Alejandro Escobar, Marcela Rosales, Luis Caceres, and Irene Tapia, among others, have expressed their solidarity with "the new government, which we helped to elect."

The leaders said that the various MIR factions must carry on an honest debate before the country and must clearly explain their positions.

In response to a question about the factions in the MIR, a party which has been known over the past 30 years as the most extremist in the country, Sebastian Vergara said that "we are talking about fraternal support, because we understand the problems faced by the new coalition government of Patricio Aylwin, who received this country divided by different viewpoints."

Vergara said that within the MIR "there are comrades who reject participating in the government. We disagree with them. We believe it is correct to participate, as long as the entire left takes coordinated action and we achieve a democratization that ensures the independence of the popular movement."

Arturo Perez has emphasized that there are three factions within the MIR and that one of them is the so-called "Third Angle" ["Tercer Vertice"], made up of the Communist Party of Chile, the Christian Left, and the MIR. Another faction advocates an internal revolution that will project the MIR during this decade. The third faction is the one that yesterday disclosed its position.

Members Named to Socialist Political Commission

PY1704222990 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 10 Apr 90 p C 3

[Excerpts] On 9 April, three ministers, one under secretary, and four congressmen were designated members of the new political commission of the Chilean Socialist Party [PS]

The PS National Council last night appointed Education Minister Ricardo Lagos, Transport Minister German Correa, National Patrimony Minister Luis Alvarado, and Under Secretary General of the Presidency Ricardo Solari as the new members of the PS political commission.

PS leader Hernan del Canto, Senators Ricardo Nunez, and Hernan Vodanovic, and Deputies Camilo Escalona and Carlos Montes were also designated members of the new commission. [passage omitted]

As of 9 April the PS leadership is made up of following members:

Clodomiro Almeyda, president; Jorge Arrate, secretary general; Marcelo Schilling and Carlos Lazo as general under secretaries; Jaime Estevez, under secretary for state affairs; Jaime Perez de Arce, under secretary for domestic affairs; Oscar Guillermo Garreton, under secretary for external affairs; Ricardo Nunez, German Correa, Ricardo Lagos, Ricardo Solari, Hernan Vodanovic, Hernan del Canto, Carlos Montes, Camilo Escalona, Adriana Munoz, and Ernesto Aguila as members of the political commission; and Raul Diaz, executive secretary.

Communist Party Secretary Announces New Program

PY1704171690 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Secretary General Volodia Teitelboim of the Chilean Communist Party [PCCh], has announced that the new PCCh program will be put to the test this year. He added that the PCCh is experiencing a very strong self-renewal process.

[Begin recording] [Teitelboim] This represents a great responsibility and each word and each thought must be very well measured. For this reason we do not want to do things hastily, but we do want to collect thousands of opinions so as to make as few mistakes as possible.

[Reporter] What about the renewal process [words indistinct]?

[Teitelboim] We accept the word renewal. But we do not understand the word perestroyka, which is a Russian word. It is a very exotic word and we are not at all enthusiastic about it. But we fully accept the word renewal. Of course the PCCh is facing a very strong renewal process. [end recording]

He added that the PCCH is preparing for the national conference in May. This conference will issue a new program based on the current one. Opinions from different noncommunist sectors will be received, including those from other political parties.

Political Parties To Recover Confiscated Property

PY1704141290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] The government is studying the possibility of returning properties confiscated from political parties that made up the Allende government, as well as those

confiscated from confederations and trade unions. This report has been released by National Resources Minister Luis Alvarado after a meeting with President Patricio Aylwin. Alvarado and Aylwin also discussed the possibility of creating the National Environment Commission. A government decree will be issued in this regard.

Regarding the properties confiscated from political parties, and their impact within this ministry, Alvarado stated:

[Begin Alvarado recording] In fact, these properties were confiscated by decree from parties that made up the Allende government. Decree 1697 confiscated properties of other political parties, and Decree 2346 confiscated properties and assets from confederations and trade unions. All these properties have been recorded and listed within this ministry, where these properties are administered. These properties are often sold or transferred directly to others. This is a complex situation. We are studying this situation, and in principle there is good intent to return these assets to their legitimate owners. This will not be simple nor will it be achieved automatically. Many of these matters will require a bill to be submitted to congress. [end recording]

Minister Alvarado added that the bill should include some sort of compensation or indemnification plans for those who will not be able to recover their properties.

Peru

Change 90 Issues Statement on Fujimori's Health

PY1804032490 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Apr 90

[Communique issued by the press office of Change 90 at the request of Mrs. Susana Fujimori in Lima on 17 April]

[Text] 1. Following his unexpected poisoning, Engineer Alberto Fujimori is clearly going through a recovery process.

2. To be able to recover completely from the unexpected poisoning and from the hectic electoral campaign for the first round of the election, Engineer Fujimori has found it necessary to take two days of rest outside his home.

3. He wants to convey his gratitude for the expressions of support he has received from members of Change 90 as well as from the people in general.

4. He begs the press for its generous understanding and announces that he will call another news conference within the next few days.

Vargas Llosa To Keep Economic Program in Runoff

PY1704214990 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1944 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Lima, 17 Apr (AFP)—Writer Mario Vargas Llosa will maintain his liberal economic program in the second round of the Peruvian presidential elections because one cannot "deceive the people." This was revealed here on Tuesday [17 April] by one of his closest advisers.

"It is not a matter of changing a program that has been thoroughly prepared over the past two years, but we must explain it now with greater precision and clarity," explained Senator Javier Silva Ruete, whose movement, Solidarity and Democracy (Sode), is a member of Vargas Llosa's Democratic Front (Fredemo) alliance.

The famous novelist received more than 30 percent of the votes in the presidential elections on 8 April 1990, but he will have to face Engineer Alberto Fujimori in a runoff election to be held within a few weeks.

Silva Ruete, a former economy minister, denied, like everyone else in the Fredemo, that this movement had talked about administering a "shock" [preceding word in English] to the Peruvian economy or about "copying" the drastic reforms implemented by the new Brazilian Government.

"We will do something completely individual to help us succeed in the short term," Silva Ruete said.

Nevertheless, Fujimori apparently will try to hinge his runoff election campaign on the Fredemo's "shock" [preceding word in English] policy, which was successfully scorned by President Alan Garcia and the ruling APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] Party, through its defeated candidate.

A communique of the independent movement Change 90, which in four weeks raised Fujimori from 0.4 to 28 percent of the votes, remembered on Monday [16 April] that the Fredemo is composed of "parties and politicians who have already governed the country. Their neoliberal proposal includes a traumatic shock [preceding word in English]."

Fujimori has not yet released his government program. He did not do so on Monday because he had a "rash caused by codfish food poisoning," explained his wife.

Change 90 has hailed Vargas Llosa's decision to run in the runoff election. In a note released to the press, Fujimori's movement indicated that "the leadership of the state is not a matter that can be decided between two people, it is an irrevocable right of the citizenry."

Countering some remarks made by Vargas Llosa, Change 90 points out that the two final-round candidates represent "two totally different options."

Some observers have noted the efforts being made by the left and by the APRA to convey a message to Fujimori.

The left and the APRA have still not announced whom will they support in the second round, but the experts consider that the left, whose constituency includes sympathizers rather than party members, will cast more votes in the second round.

Silva Ruete, who has apparently displaced "hard liner" Raul Salazar in the Fredemo's economic policy-making team, has admitted that "some faults that have been detected" would be corrected, and said that they are preparing to participate in the runoff election with "much more energy and greater confidence in victory."

Shining Path Murders Former Garcia Aide

PY1704235190 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2242 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Lima, 17 Apr (AFP)—The National Police have reported that a Shining Path command today murdered Felipe Santiago Salaverry, one of President Alan Garcia's most trusted aides who headed, until a few months ago, the Peruvian Institute of Social Security [IPSS].

Witnesses told the police that Salaverry did not have any protection and that he was attacked at noon by between six and eight armed men as he arrived at his farm near the Panamericana highway, just 30 km from Lima.

General Oscar Diaz Salvador said that the terrorists "riddled him with bullets, and then smashed in his head with a sharp object. They left Shining Path pamphlets on his body before fleeing."

Salaverry was a member of the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance]. He was considered one of the closest and most controversial aides of President Garcia.

Political sources noted that Salaverry resigned from his IPSS post at the end of 1989, yielding to political pressure and charges linking him with irregular imports of medicines, allegedly organizing paramilitary groups, and with purchasing weapons for these groups.

Condemning the terrorist crime, APRA Senator Adolfo Guevara Velasco said: "It was a cowardly murder."

The crime was committed in a sown field adjacent to Campomar, a camping area of the Universitario de Deportes Soccer Club. The field was cordoned off and no reporter was allowed to approach the area.

General Diaz said police experts are trying to obtain fingerprints and clues about the murderers, who fled toward the south.

Votes for Congress Annulled in 86 Voting Stations

PY1704174690 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Elena Maria Delgado, spokesperson for the We Are Free independent ticket, has reported that the departmental court has annulled the vote counts for congressional tickets in 86 Lima voting stations. At each of those stations, the number of votes turned out to be higher than the number of registered voters.

Delgado, who ran for a seat in the House, added that the subcommittees of departmental court members and of party representatives are working expeditiously. She said that approximately 60 percent of the Lima province records on vote-count proceedings have already been examined.

The special committee in charge of imposing sanctions on the tickets which were invalidated because of vote-count irregularities is working slowly. Actually, it is still working on the Lima records. [passage omitted]